

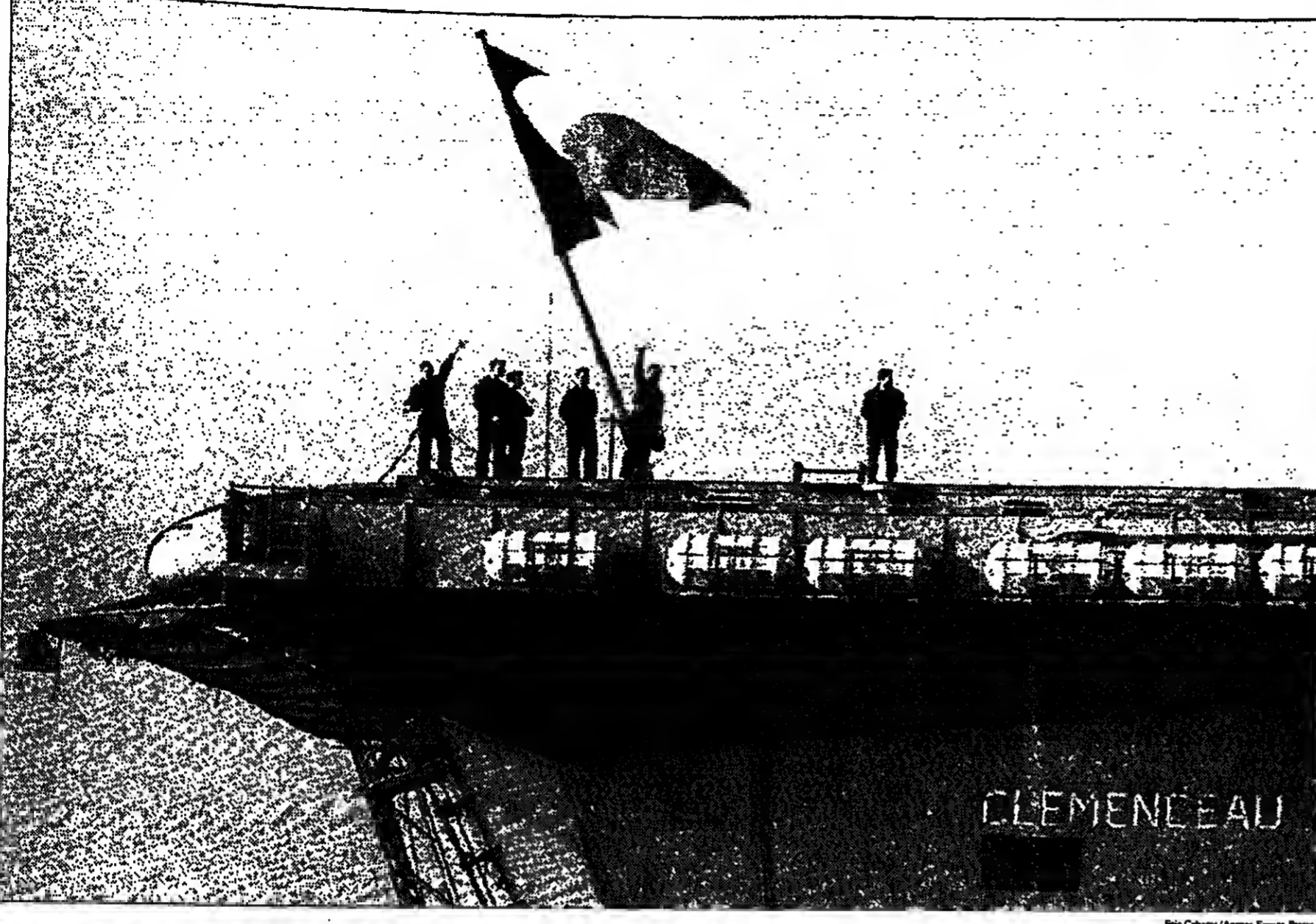
PEOPLE
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French troops on the aircraft carrier Clemenceau as it left Toulon, France, on Thursday, bound for the Adriatic after two French soldiers were killed in Croatia this week.

U.S. Looks Closer At Taking Offensive To Halt Balkans War

By John M. Goshko and Don Oberdorfer

WASHINGTON — In its first foray into foreign policy crisis management, the Clinton administration has expanded U.S. consideration of potential offensive actions in the Balkans civil war beyond the limited objectives pursued by the Bush administration. U.S. officials said that the National Security Council has asked for an interagency study to assess what would happen in Bosnia-Herzegovina and other parts of the former Yugoslavia if U.S. policy remained unchanged. It also asked how much military force would be required to lift the long-standing Serbian siege of Bosnia's capital, Sarajevo, and to open the roads to unrestricted passage of relief supplies throughout the republic. The study, described by an official as "a comprehensive, wall-to-wall approach" to every aspect of the Balkans conflict, includes taking a new look at ideas considered by the Bush administration. These include such options as shooting down Serbian aircraft invading the air-exclusion zone that the United Nations has decreed over Bosnia, bombing Serbian airfields and artillery positions, modifying the United Nations arms embargo to enable Bosnia's Muslim-controlled government to obtain more weapons, using UN peacekeeping forces to prevent Serb-instigated aggression from spreading to Kosovo and Macedonia and establishing an international war crimes commission to identify and deal with perpetrators of atrocities. But, the officials added, the unusually broad list of questions and options that were sent to the State and Defense departments and the Central Intelligence Agency suggested that the new administration was willing at least to consider a greatly expanded U.S. and international role in the Balkans. Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher cautioned on Thursday against expecting a quick decision by the administration on policy toward the war in the former Yugoslavia. Reuters reported from Washington. [Speaking after a first White House meeting to review options for a new U.S. approach, he said: "We had a good discussion of those options. There is a very wide range." But he urged reporters to "lower your expectations in terms of timing" on a decision.] During the presidential campaign, Mr. Clinton called for a more activist approach to the Balkan conflict. Mr. Christopher, after a meeting with the House Foreign Affairs Committee on Wednesday, recalled Mr. Clinton's campaign remarks and said that Bosnia "does seem to be a place where the United States needs to be activist and internationalist in our outlook." However, Mr. Clinton may be inhibited, as was President George Bush before him, by the reluctance of Britain, France and Russia — which, like the United States, are permanent members of the UN Security Council — to agree to tougher measures. Bosnia's chief UN delegate, Mohammed Saccirbey, accused the Bush administration of making "a halfhearted effort" to deal with the crisis as the inauguration neared. Mr. Saccirbey said Clinton administration officials left the impression that "we should not be disappointed" by the results of their policy review. In Congress, a nonbinding resolution being circulated called for stronger U.S. action in the Balkans, including the use of military air power to enforce the air-exclusion zone over Bosnia.

Overextended, Serbs May Be Vulnerable

By Peter Maass

LONDON — Independent military observers say that the Serbian forces that have seized large parts of Croatia and Bosnia may be overextended and vulnerable to a rollback. As a new outbreak of fighting rages across the former Yugoslavia, the Serbs are no longer involved on just one front, but are engaged on several. Instead of facing little opposition, the Serbs are now facing more organized forces. Instead of conquering territory, the Serbs have now lost a little ground. "They were never invincible," said Michael Clarke, director of the Center for Defense Studies here. "As time goes on, the job they're trying to do gets more difficult and messy." Mr. Clarke said he believed that the Serbs had fallen into the classic predicament of conquering more territory than they could hold. "Their army is really not very good at fighting," he said. "They're good at sitting in the hills and lobbing shells at cities." "But they're not good infantry troops," he said. Nobody is predicting that Serbian fighters in Croatia and Bosnia will run for the hills in the coming months. There are too many of them, they are well armed and they are backed by the still-powerful Yugoslav National Army. What's happening, experts say, is that a brutal, one-sided romp has turned into more of a toe-to-toe battle in which the momentum could start moving against the overextended Serbs. One way to preserve their gains would be to negotiate for a peace agreement. That appears to be the main reason why Serbia's president, Slobodan Milosevic, viewed in Western capitals as the prime instigator of the warfare, has given his support to a United Nations-sponsored peace plan being negotiated in Geneva. But due to the shifting battlefield fortunes, the Bosnian president, Alija Izetbegovic, has become reluctant to accept the UN plan, which gives the Serbs de facto control of large chunks of his ravaged country. The plan calls for Bosnia to be split into 10 autonomous regions, with 42 percent of the territory dominated by Serbs. Mr. Izetbegovic is being told by his

NEWS ANALYSIS
See SERBS, Page 2
New fighting threatens a vital dam near the Croatian coast. Page 2.

A Miscalculation for Clinton on Homosexual GIs

By Richard L. Berke

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's skirmish with Congress and the Pentagon over the issue of homosexuals in the military has left even strong supporters of the new president conceding that he miscalculated the political repercussions of his campaign promise from the start. As a result, at a moment when he is more interested in dealing with his economic agenda, Mr. Clinton has little choice but to expend political capital with Congress in pushing ahead on an issue that neither he nor gay-rights organizations had made a high priority. Although the White House wanted a compromise with lawmakers, aides to Mr. Clinton made clear that he would not back down from his goal of reversing the ban and that he would thus avoid being attacked either for breaking another campaign pledge or for abandoning his gay constituency. Mr. Clinton said Thursday that he was not certain when his decision on lifting or changing the ban on homosexuals in the military would be announced but that favored a six-month delay on ending the ban to give him more time to study the issue. (Page 3)

But there has been a far louder outcry in the past several days on the issue than there was during the campaign. In particular, said David Mixner, an adviser to Mr. Clinton on gay issues during the campaign, the new administration never expected that the chairman of the Joint Chiefs, General Colin L. Powell, would oppose the ban with such intensity, although his position has long been known. Mr. Clinton's move should have come as no surprise either to the military or to Congress: Ending the ban was firmly and consistently listed as a campaign pledge, even if he raised the issue only sporadically on the trail. Gay organizations have long demanded that

homosexuals be admitted into the military. But their political efforts during the campaign were concentrated on raising money to fight the AIDS epidemic and on broader efforts to protect homosexuals against discrimination in housing and the workplace. "I think it's something that we almost backed into," Mr. Clinton said when asked in an interview in August about his positions on matters important to gay Americans. While he said his proposal on homosexuals in the military would "frighten some Americans," he predicted that "if the American people will hear me out I have what I consider to be a basic, common-sense view of this." What Mr. Clinton clearly did not anticipate then was that some people would try to expand his comments into a referendum on whether homosexuality is acceptable in America. Nor did he appear to anticipate the eagerness with which Republican lawmakers seized on the issue to give him a political fight early in his administration. Even more important, Mr. Clinton's advisers said, the president did not anticipate the depth of outrage among Democrats in Congress and the Joint Chiefs of Staff over an issue that to them was in many ways symbolic and, on its face, less complicated than practical matters like improving the economy.

President Fires Doctor Who Balked

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton has dismissed the cancer specialist who served as George Bush's personal physician and will appoint his own White House doctor, officials said Thursday. Dr. Burton J. Lee 3d said he did not know why he had been let go but that it had occurred after he refused to give Mr. Clinton an allergy shot. White House aides said that Mr. Clinton was simply exercising his prerogative to choose his own doctor, and that the refusal of the allergy shot had nothing to do with the dismissal. The White House press secretary, Dee Dee Myers, said that Mr. Clinton had "always intended to bring in his own personal physician." Dr. Lee, who was fiercely loyal to Mr. Bush, said he had hoped to retain his post long enough to help career employees in his office keep jobs under Mr. Clinton's new doctor. "I knew this would happen eventually," he said. Dr. Lee said he had not wanted to administer the shot until he received Mr. Clinton's medical records from Little Rock, Arkansas. The former Arkansas governor is treated regularly for allergy problems.

U.S. Draws a Line in Trade Disputes

An Invitation to Miyazawa Is Tied to Progress by Japan

American Aide Urges Halt To Foreign Steel Subsidies

By Jim Mann

WASHINGTON — In a demonstration of the Clinton administration's strikingly cool stance toward Japan, American officials have served notice that Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa should not expect to meet with the new president until after Japan takes concrete steps to help ease the huge trade imbalance between the two countries. Michael H. Armacost, the U.S. ambassador to Japan, told Japanese officials in Tokyo earlier this month that there was no point in Mr. Miyazawa's traveling to Washington for an early get-together with Mr. Clinton as long as he has nothing specific to offer. Instead, the ambassador suggested, Japan should first take some action, such as a tax cut, to stimulate its economy, an action that would bolster domestic demand and, thus, Japanese imports of American products. White House and State Department officials have confirmed the substance of Mr. Armacost's message and acknowledged that it represented the official American viewpoint. [The White House asserted Thursday, however, that it had set no conditions for a summit meeting with Japan but that the large trade deficit with Tokyo was of concern to the new administration. Agence France-Press reported from Washington. "We are not going to set preconditions," said the White House

WASHINGTON — Despite an outcry from foreign governments, U.S. officials stood firm Thursday in a burgeoning trade dispute, demanding an end to dumping and government subsidies on foreign steel and suggesting that stalled multinational steel talks be resumed. Officials of steel-producing nations in Europe and Asia sharply criticized a tentative decision Wednesday by the U.S. Department of Commerce to impose punitive tariffs on imported steel. Japan's Ministry for International Trade and Industry called the action "deeply regrettable" and said "the real problems of the U.S. steel industry stem largely from domestic causes." But a spokesman for the new U.S. trade representative, Mickey Kantor, said Thursday: "The way to solve this problem is for foreign governments to halt subsidies and foreign producers to halt dumping." The spokesman, who is asked that her name not be used, also suggested that multinational steel talks in Geneva, which are currently inactive, are the proper forum for further discussion of the issue. Asked about threats by foreign governments to take their concerns to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Mr. Kantor's aide said: "An excellent long-term solution would be through negotiation of a multilateral steel agreement." The issue appears to be President Bill Clinton's first major trade dispute. But his new Commerce secretary, Ronald H. Brown, took care

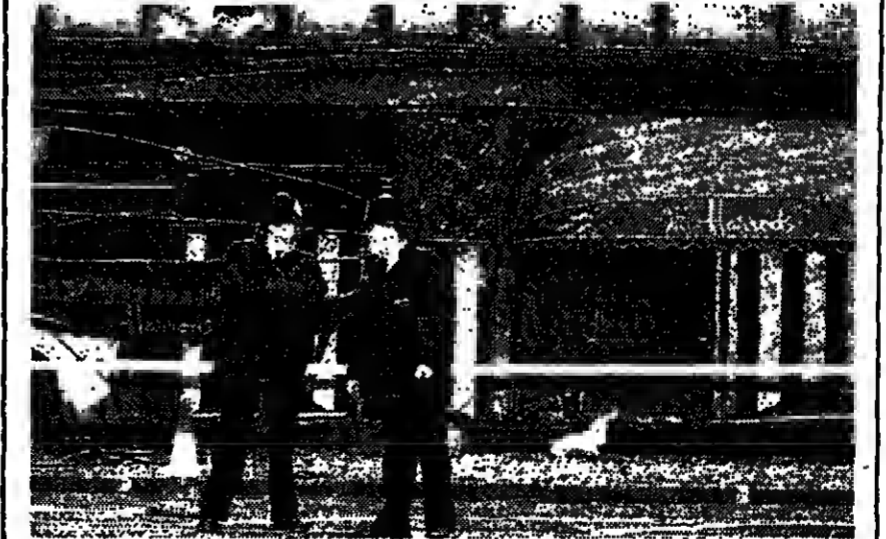
Amsterdam Car Ban: Will It Backfire?

By Marlise Simons

AMSTERDAM — Even for a city that relies on the social experiment, this city's plan for a new urban lifestyle may appear unusual. Amsterdam wants to be the first major European city that virtually banishes the car from its heart. Wall-to-wall traffic, noise and fumes in the stoppage streets and stiff gridlocks on the canal bridges have brought on the decision. The present image of the automobile here is approximately that of a leech on the body of the community. "For years the city was forced to adapt to cars," said Rob Pistor, a city official and one of the plan's chief strategists. "Cars will now have to adapt to the city." Starting this year, a step-by-step plan aims

initially to make life as unpleasant as possible for motorists who insist on nudging their way around the city's inner ring of canals. Cars will be squeezed off the streets by wider sidewalks and new bicycle lanes, and parking spaces will be cut back sharply. In later stages, all nonvital traffic is to be banned. While the plan has wide backing from frustrated residents, business groups warn that what may be a victory for the quality of life could bring on the decline if not the collapse of economic life in the inner city. The Amsterdam experience, experts say, will serve as a test case for other cities because the competition between man and machine is slowly shifting in favor of the beleaguered pedestrian across Western Europe. What began as a modest trend in many cities to close off the occasional shopping street is growing into a movement of larger car-free zones. Medieval town centers, once built for people on foot and a few carts and carriages, have partly reverted to strollers who in the past were rattled by congestion and noise. Leicester, Cologne, Prague, Strasbourg and Turin, to name just a few cities, have set aside central squares and streets that hug the town hall or the cathedral for pedestrians only. What is remarkable about Amsterdam is that while it has one of the largest and most intensely used historic city centers of Europe, its plan to curtail traffic is more radical than that of any other regional capital. Moreover, the city held a nonbinding referendum last March — the first in Amsterdam's history in which almost 53 percent of the voters

Kiosk



IRA BLAST AT HARRODS WOUNDS 4 — A small bomb exploded near an entrance to Harrods in London on Thursday, slightly wounding four people waiting for the department store to open for a sale. The Irish Republican Army took responsibility for the blast. An IRA bombing there nine years ago killed six people.

Stray Shot Kills Paris Envoy in Zaire

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — France's ambassador to Zaire was killed Thursday, apparently by a stray bullet, as soldiers rioted and looted shops and foreigners' homes in Kinshasa, the Zairian capital. The French Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Ambassador Philippe Bernard, 61, was hit by a bullet while in his office in the city center. Mr. Bernard had assumed his post only last month. The soldiers went on a looting rampage after being paid with new 5 million zaire bank notes, which businesses are refusing to accept.

Bundesbank Chief Bearish Again on Rate Cut

The Bundesbank president, Helmut Schlesinger, on Thursday eroded hopes of a German interest-rate cut anytime soon. He said rates had to remain "comparatively high" because Western German inflation around 4 percent was too high. Page 11.

Dow Jones Up 14.86 3,306.25	Trib Index Up 0.54% 90.82	General News A military reshuffle weakened a China clan. Page 5. India and Russia signed accords on arms. Page 5.	Business/Finance Consumer spending produced a burst of U.S. growth. Page 11. Japan exported fewer cars last year, but they were worth more. Page 15.
The Dollar New York, Thurs close previous close DM 1.586 1.587 Pound 1.5155 1.5105 Yen 124.20 124.075 FF 5.3655 5.3705	Fashion Oscar de la Renta closed a week of Paris couture with a Balmain show that was a social triumph. Page 8.	Crossword Page 18. Weather Page 18.	

Israeli Court Votes to Uphold Deportations

By Clyde Haberman

JERUSALEM — In a decision carrying immediate implications for Israel's diplomatic standing and for the future of the Middle East peace talks, the Israeli High Court of Justice on Thursday unanimously validated the deportation of 415 Palestinians from the occupied territories to Lebanon. Although the seven justices expressed reservations about some aspects of the government's action, they declared the mid-December mass expulsions to be legitimate and rejected appeals to bring the Palestinians back. The ruling, welcomed by the government and denounced by Palestinian leaders and Arab states, is likely to put Israel on a collision course with the United Nations Security Council, which has condemned the deportations as a violation of international law. For Israeli leaders, a dominant question now is whether they can avoid UN sanctions, especially after Secretary-General Butros Butros Ghali recommended earlier this week that the council take "whatever measures are required" to enforce its demand that the banished Palestinians be returned. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, saying the court decision gave him "a good feeling," expressed renewed confidence that the Clinton administration would block any attempt to impose sanctions. "It's hard for me to believe that an administration and president in the United States wouldn't fight against sanctions," Mr. Rabin said. He said such opposition had been U.S. policy "for 35 years or more." [The Clinton administration urged the Security Council to defer consideration of sanctions against Israel, and the State Department again insisted that diplomacy rather than a fractious council debate was the best approach. The Associated Press reported from Washington. "I want to make sure we do everything we can to bring the parties together," said George Stephanopoulos, the White House spokesman. He called any consideration of a U.S. veto "hypothetical" but declined to rule it out. [The State Department spokesman, Richard A. Boucher, declined to evaluate the ruling. "I

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It's Time to Discuss A Successor to Kohl, Aide in Saxony Says

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

BERLIN — A leading politician from Eastern Germany has upset the country's political establishment by suggesting that it is time to discuss a successor to Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The suggestion came from Heinz Eggert, interior minister of the state of Saxony, who is a deputy chairman of Mr. Kohl's Christian Democratic Union. He won his party post in an upset last year, against the chancellor's wishes.

Coming at a time when Mr. Kohl is besieged by problems, the suggestion evidently touched a nerve.

"Eggert, the brave but unwelcome man from the East, is saying what many others are thinking," the Berliner Morgenpost said Tuesday in an editorial.

Partly in response to the current disquiet, Mr. Kohl called party leaders together for a special meeting Tuesday. But when he was asked whether he was willing to discuss a possible successor, he curtly replied, "That is not a topic."

Mr. Kohl's popularity is slipping steadily, and this week a poll taken by the Forsa Institute indicated that only 24 percent of Germans want him to remain in office, down from 28 percent last week.

No imminent threat to Mr. Kohl's power is visible, however. Over the years he has defeated all challenges within his own party and has politically crushed several figures who were considered possible successors. The rival Social Democratic Party, struggling with internal dissent, does not have the strength to force him from power.

Nonetheless, Mr. Kohl is under more pressure now than at any time since he took office in 1982. Many Germans marvel that the leader who so deftly managed reunification less than three years ago has not been able to lead the country more inspirationally.

The debate was set off by an interview with Mr. Eggert that appeared Monday in Focus, a new newsmagazine. He said that discussing Mr. Kohl's successor was "not dangerous, but necessary."

"There must be other people besides the present chancellor who could be trusted to assume this position at any time," Mr. Eggert said. "No one is irreplaceable."

He also suggested that the offices of chancellor and party leader should no longer be held by one person, Mr. Kohl holds both.

By so bluntly pointing out Mr. Kohl's political mortality, Mr. Eggert broke a taboo that leaders of the Christian Democratic Union have long observed. Until now, no leader has publicly been willing even to speculate that there might be a future without Mr. Kohl.

In recent months the chancellor has been harshly criticized for failing to respond more energetically to neo-Nazi attacks or to produce a long-term plan for absorbing Germany's poor Eastern states. Critics also said his lack of leadership was partly to blame for the long stalemate over asylum policy and possible use of German troops in foreign peacekeeping missions.

Mr. Kohl said he intended to run for re-election in 1994, and he has already begun campaigning.

"The message that Kohl got from George Bush's defeat was that you have to start running early," a foreign diplomat said. "He's started showing up at every state party convention. He gives a stump speech, saying that the party may be bleeding now, but that this was all part of his calculation, and that things will look much better by election time. His problem is that more and more people are wondering how that is going to happen."

German Gypsies Seek Bonn's Aid Against Exclusion

By Paul Lewis
New York Times Service

BERLIN — Gypsies who survived the Nazis' Auschwitz extermination camp told President Richard von Weizsäcker on Thursday that 50 years after the war, they were still forced to live on the margins of society.

"We are still shut out in many walks of life," said the leader of Germany's Sinti and Roma community, Romani Rose, as he gave Mr. Weizsäcker books containing the names of about 20,000 gypsies who died in the camp during World War II and 2,000 who survived.

"We urge politicians to do more to involve all minorities in public life and to give them clearer support," he said.

Mr. Rose, who was born after the war, led a group of eight Auschwitz survivors for the reception to mark the 50th anniversary this weekend of Hitler's seizure of power.

He said the 70,000-member Sinti and Roma community in Germany was witnessing with horror the rise in anti-foreigner violence. Mr. Rose told Mr. Weizsäcker that his people wanted to be mentioned in the constitution as a German ethnic group and protected as a minority.



A woman in Sarajevo protesting outside the presidential offices Thursday with a photo of her son, who she says was one of 170 Bosnian soldiers arrested for attempting to join Croatian forces.

UN Chief Weighs Croatia Pullout

By Paul Lewis
New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — Secretary-General Butros Ghali has warned the Security Council that the fighting in Croatia has placed "the entire peace process in jeopardy" and might lead him to recommend pulling out the peacekeepers deployed there when their mandate expires in three weeks.

The secretary-general called the positions of the Serbs and Croats "mutually unreconcilable" and said there was an "extremely high" risk of a serious increase in the fighting that broke out between them in Croatia on Jan. 22.

The council responded by issuing a statement calling for an immediate halt to the fighting and threatening "further steps" if its order were not complied with — a clear warning it would then consider trade sanctions against Croatia, as Russia has already proposed.

[The United States said Thursday that withdrawal of all UN peacekeepers from Croatia would probably broaden the conflict, Reuters reported from Washington.

"We can understand the frustrations of the secretary-general with the situation and the danger that the UN troops have been facing out there," the State Department spokesman, Richard A. Boucher, said, adding that a total withdrawal "would just likely end up broadening the conflict."

Under the peace plan prepared by Mr. Butros Ghali's special envoy to the Balkans, Cyrus R. Vance, and accepted by all the parties just over a year ago, the UN peacekeeping force is protecting the Serbian enclaves that make up about a third of Croatia.

But the United Nations has had little success in carrying out its task of disarming Serbian militias there and supervising the return of Croatian refugees who fled their homes. Meanwhile, the Serbs have further provoked Croatia by proclaiming their enclaves an independent Serbian state.

As a result, the Croatian government of President Franjo Tudjman is under pressure from hard-line nationalists and the military to send its own armed forces into the areas to impose the terms of the so-called Vance plan themselves.

New Clash Threatens Vital Dam In Croatia

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ZADAR, Croatia — Fighting erupted on a new front Thursday in Croatia, threatening a dam under United Nations control, and a weak cease-fire between Muslim and Croatian forces in Bosnia disintegrated.

Croatian forces claimed to have captured the strategic Peruca dam, but said retreating Serbian troops had set off three demolition mines at key points, threatening the structure with collapse.

In Bosnia, a spokesman for Croatian Defense Council forces said at least 10 Croatian soldiers were killed after fierce fighting resumed in the mixed Croatian-Muslim town of Busovaca.

"The Muslims attacked with tanks," the spokesman said. "We're now trying to negotiate another truce. But we're really just going around in circles."

There were these related developments Thursday:

- The UN secretary-general, Butros Ghali, called for a meeting between North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials and UN peacekeepers to discuss enforcing the no-flight zone over Bosnia, diplomats said in Brussels. Mr. Butros Ghali proposed the talks in response to a plan drawn up by the 16 NATO nations for stopping Serbian warplanes from flying over Bosnia-Herzegovina in defiance of the UN ban.
- UN peacekeepers rescued a dozen French soldiers trapped between Serbian and Croatian lines in the Krajina region, the French Defense Ministry said. Additionally, Serbian rebels in the Krajina enclave freed 11 of 21 UN civilian police officers held since Sunday in a town under Croatian artillery fire. A UN spokesman said the others would be released Friday.
- A Yugoslav flotilla carrying thousands of tons of fuel reached Serbia despite intensified efforts to end sanctions-busting on the Danube River, officials said. Romania and Bulgaria, which share responsibility for monitoring a key stretch of the international waterway, are resisting U.S. pressure to use force to stop the barges from violating the sanctions.

Both governments say they are ready to enforce the embargo but not at the risk of a war.

"Shall we kill the crew? How about our responsibility to the Serbs? It is not a good idea to provoke a Balkan war by sinking ships in the Danube," Prime Minister Lyuben Berov of Bulgaria said Wednesday.

The surge in fighting in Croatia threatened peace talks on Bosnia taking place in Geneva under UN and European Community auspices. A spokesman, Fred Eckhard, said there had been no progress because of the latest clashes.

The Croatian Army is trying to regain territory Serbs refused to cede in accordance with the UN-brokered truce that ended a six-month civil war in Croatia one year ago. The fighting near the Croatian coast began Friday with a Croatian offensive into areas supposedly under UN protection. Serbian militias launched a fierce counterattack on Wednesday.

Now, fighting is concentrated along the edges of a mainly Serb-populated crescent of western Croatia known as Krajina.

The latest clash occurred on the new front, about 65 kilometers (40 miles) from any previous fighting. The Peruca dam, 35 kilometers north of the Adriatic port of Split, is vital to the southern coast's electricity supply.

The dam was taken by Serbs during Croatia's six-month Serb-Croat war in 1991. In September, UN peacekeepers took it over from Serbian militiamen because it was deemed strategically important. (AP, Reuters)

WORLD BRIEFS

Language an Issue in Kazakh Charter

ALMA-ATA, Kazakhstan (Reuters) — Parliament adopted Kazakhstan's first constitution as an independent state on Thursday, despite fears that articles dealing with language rights could alienate the huge Russian minority.

Kazakh legislators, who hold a majority in parliament despite representing less than half the population, overrode complaints by Russian legislators. Lawmakers approved articles of the constitution making Kazakh the official state language and ruling that the state president has to have a fluent command of the language. Few Russians, who make up 39 percent of the republic's population of 17 million, speak Kazakh.

The new constitution, however, gives special status to Russian as "the social language between peoples." It describes Kazakhstan as a "democratic, secular and unitary state" and grants full rights to all citizens.

Clashes in Angola as Talks Continue

LUANDA (Reuters) — Angolan government troops and rebels with the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, or UNITA, fought in central and southern Angola on Thursday as their representatives met in Ethiopia to discuss a cease-fire in their renewed civil war.

Diplomats and state radio reported intense fighting in Menongue, capital of southern Cuando Cubango Province, and tensions in central Kwanza Sul Province. Diplomats believed heavy clashes were continuing in Huambo, UNITA's headquarters in the central highlands about 500 kilometers (300 miles) southeast of Luanda.

In the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, middle-level delegations from the two sides began talks on ending the conflict, which erupted after UNITA rejected the results of September elections and began to expel local authorities from two-thirds of towns across the country. Mangera Anstee, the UN representative at the talks, said that the negotiations had gotten off to a positive start.

Falkland War Crimes? Inquiry Starts

LONDON (Reuters) — British detectives will go to the Falkland Islands next week to investigate allegations that Argentine soldiers were victims of war crimes by British troops during the 1982 war, the police said Thursday.

Two detectives from Scotland Yard will arrive on the south Atlantic islands Feb. 2 for a four-day visit. "A prime purpose of the trip is to liaise with local authorities," a spokesman said.

They will question islanders and the possibility of exhuming the bodies of prisoners of war will also be examined. Detectives have already interviewed serving and former British paratroopers. Allegations that Argentine prisoners of war were executed were published last year in a book by a former member of a paratroop regiment.

Seoul Puts a Price on Reunification

SEOUL (NYT) — South Korea's Finance Ministry has issued a report saying if South Korea was forced to absorb the North Korean economy by the year 2000, reunification would cost \$980 billion, the highest government estimate given so far.

"This is the first government report which is saying reunification can be attained if approached in a cautious and realistic manner," said Ryn Suk Yul, a research fellow at the Institute for Foreign Affairs and National Security. The report was based on a study done two years after Germany's reunification, trying to learn from the mistakes and prevent the same from happening on the Korean Peninsula.

Estimated reunification cost for South Korea is considered to be too great a burden, since the country's gross national product is only \$280 billion, one-fifth of West Germany's at the time of unification. The report suggests a much more restrictive unification process, which includes initially limiting travel between the two sides to those families separated by the Korean War.

For the Record

Gummen in Istanbul fired at a prominent Jewish businessman, Jak Kamhi, who escaped unharmed. Mr. Kamhi heads a foundation commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Jews' arrival in Turkey. (AP)

TRAVEL UPDATE

Tower Bridge in London will close in April for repairs. The 99-year-old neo-Gothic drawbridge spanning the Thames has suffered extensive corrosion. The work is expected to be completed by the end of July. (AP)

Nairobi's airport was closed Thursday when a cargo plane became disabled and blocked the runway, officials said. Outgoing flights were canceled and incoming international flights were diverted to the port city of Mombasa. The airport was expected to reopen Friday. (Reuters)

Air Lanka grounded its new Airbus A-320 aircraft for four days on the advice of the manufacturer of the plane's engines but cleared it for takeoff Thursday, officials said. Air Lanka had "temporarily withdrawn" its Airbus A-320, which was delivered Jan. 10, from the service since Monday following a directive issued by International Aero Engines, a spokesman said in Sri Lanka. (AFP)

China's Yunnan Airlines opened an international route Wednesday with a weekly round-trip charter flight to Singapore. Yunnan, which serves 37 points in China, used a Boeing 737 from Kunming in southwest China, Singapore's Civil Aviation Authority announced. (AP)

Taiwan's Eva Airways hopes to begin service between Taipei and London by late March following announcement of a landing rights agreement between Taiwan and Britain, the company said. (Bloomberg)

Antrak introduced its high-speed passenger train on a Washington-New York test run in preparation for regular service next week. The railroad will begin regular schedules between Washington, New York and New Haven, Connecticut, on Monday for three months, using the Swedish "tilt" train capable of 155 miles per hour (250 kph). (AP)

1957 Atomic Disaster Site in Urals Remains Contaminated and Unsafe

By Fred Hiatt
Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — The site of one of the world's most serious and most secret nuclear accidents, a plutonium plant in the Ural Mountains where in 1957 a disaster caused thousands of casualties, remains contaminated and a potential hazard, according to Russian officials.

Vasili Voznyak, releasing new details about the catastrophe and resulting illnesses, said that radioactive waste equivalent to "20 Chernobyls" remains stored around the plant near Chelyabinsk. Mr. Voznyak, head of a committee to study the consequences of nuclear accidents, said some of the waste remained in unsafe conditions.

"Of course, not all of this can explode at once tomorrow," he said. But he added that there were still some containers of the kind that leaked in 1957.

"Therefore," he said, "potentially the danger exists. If there was a major accident, the radioactive dumps on the territory of the plant are still capable of producing much more pollution than the 1986 accident at Chernobyl."

The Mayak plant is part of the nation's weapons complex. Mr. Voznyak said it damaged the environment and local residents in three stages.

The first occurred in its early years, from the start of construction in 1948 through 1951, when the Soviet Union was racing to match the United States by building atomic bombs. Radioactive waste was simply dumped into local rivers, which were used by villages for drinking water and farming. Mr. Voznyak said.

This affected 124,000 people, forced the resettlement of 7,500 and left some riverbanks contaminated to this day, he said.

The second, most serious event occurred in 1957, when nuclear wastes exploded, releasing 2 million curies over a huge territory. This accident led to the resettlement of 10,700 people, he said, although none were told why and no news was released.

Finally, a 1967 drought dried nearby Lake Karachai, which had been used as an atomic dump, allowing wind to spread radioactive waste over a huge territory, he said.

Altogether, Mr. Voznyak said, 450,000 people were subjected to radioactive contamination from the three incidents. At least 50,000 received significant doses, and "about 1,000 became sick with leukemia," he said. But secrecy and lack of adequate follow-up make it impossible to measure casualties accurately, he added.

The 1957 disaster was first reported by the dissident Soviet scientist Zhores A. Medvedev in 1976. He was greeted with skepticism even in the West, and Soviet officials acknowledged only later that something took place.

Major to Sue Over Rumors of Infidelity

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Prime Minister John Major said Thursday that he was filing a lawsuit against two British magazines that repeated rumors that he had an extramarital affair.

Lawyers for Mr. Major began action against the leftist weekly New Statesman and Society and the magazine Scallywag in an effort to squash the rumors.

"The prime minister has today instructed solicitors Biddle and Co. to issue writs for libel against the New Statesman and Society and Scallywag," his office said.

Steve Platt, editor of the New Statesman, insisted the magazine had no intention of libeling Mr. Major in the article and said: "We will contest it vigorously."

It was, he said, a story about press coverage of rumors and rumor-mongering in politics, not about Mr. Major himself.

Simon Regan, editor and publisher of Scallywag, said he was confident of winning and that there was "worse to come."

"If they persist in this, then we must be prepared to take on our evidence," said Mr. Regan, a former reporter for the News of the World, a racy weekly. Scallywag's masthead says it is published by "the gifted, inebriated and insane."

Politicians denounced publication of the rumors. The British press is already under fire over intrusion into the privacy of the royal family and others.

It was believed to be the first libel action by a prime minister since Harold Wilson sued a pop group over a record promotion in 1967.

Other publications have hinted at the rumors about Mr. Major, 49, but the New Statesman article was the first to put together all the elements of what has been reported.

10 Downing Street has confirmed that Mr. Major knows the woman in question but said suggestions of an "association" are baseless.

The New Statesman quoted the woman as saying: "I'm sorry but I can't talk to anyone about it. The whole thing is just ridiculous because it is totally untrue." (Reuters, AP)

SERBS: Signs of Vulnerability Amid New Fighting

(Continued from page 1)

Military commanders say that they can win the war or, at the least, make it unwinnable for the Serbs — especially if there is some form of Western intervention. The Bosnian leader can opt to walk away from the Geneva negotiations, accusing the United Nations of appeasing Serbian aggression, although he would do so at the price of more misery for his people.

For the past year, the war between Serbs and Croats has remained largely dormant. The Croats have used the time to assemble a proper army and acquire decent weapons, despite the UN embargo on all arms shipments to the former Yugoslav republics, and they now feel capable of taking on the Serbs.

The shifting fortunes were illustrated last weekend when the Croatian Army crossed a UN cease-fire line and attacked Serbian rebels in Krajina.

Diplomats in Geneva said the Muslim-led Bosnian Army had begun in recent months to purchase arms on the international black market with funding from friendly Muslim nations. The new, more sophisticated arms — brought in across Croatian lines, the diplomats said — have enabled the Bosnians to begin scoring successes against the Serbs after nine months of losses. The still-outgunned Bosnians, hemmed into Sarajevo and several other enclaves, are not on the verge of chasing the Serbian fighters into Serbia, but they have started recapturing lost territory.

"Little by little, the situation has changed," said Mustafa Hajrudinovic, a Bosnian commander based in Sarajevo.

UN mediators in Geneva said Mr. Izetbegovic's stiffer attitude at the peace talks was based on the prospect of increased arms deliveries and the possibility of foreign intervention. The Muslims believe they have momentum on the ground and in Western public opinion, diplomats suggested, to win a better deal by seeing the negotiations collapse.

Independent military strategists emphasize that heavy weapons are not enough to hold captured territory. The Serbs, they say, do not have enough soldiers to defend their front lines against well-organized opposition.

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French AIDS Expert Breaks New Ground

By Barry James
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Dr. Luc Montagnier, who discovered the virus that was later identified as causing AIDS, on Thursday announced the creation of a private foundation aimed at turning laboratory experiments and even far-fetched theories into therapies.

He said some of the avenues being explored give reasonable hope of extending the period between infection with the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, and the onset of AIDS from today's maximum of 10 years to 15 or 20 years.

"We can no longer depend on governments and international organizations," Dr. Montagnier said. "We must move faster and do better."

"The scientific knowledge and theories are there, but they haven't yet been tested sufficiently to produce a cure or a vaccine," he said. "We're in a position similar to the one in the United States, on the eve of the development of the atomic bomb."

He announced the establishment of the World Foundation for Research and Prevention of AIDS, which he co-founded with Federico Mayor Zaragoza, director-general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Dr. Montagnier said the immediate aim of the foundation was to establish three clinical research centers, in France, Africa and the United States, where new therapeutic methods can be tested on HIV-positive patients.

Bernard Kouchner, the French health minister, said the first center would be opened in Paris this year.

Each center will cost about 60 million francs to establish, with annual operating costs of about 50 million.

The foundation also plans to finance research into other viruses and bacteria that act in conjunction with the HIV virus to speed the onset of AIDS.

Arguing that relatively little has been done for patients in the 10 years since the discovery of the virus, Dr. Montagnier said, "The moment has come to move from the laboratory to the clinic and explore new avenues."

Dr. Jonathan Mann, head of the Global Aids Policy Coalition in Boston, welcomed the initiative, saying the existing fight against AIDS had become too bureaucratic.

"Too often today, people are defining effectiveness in AIDS programs in terms of things like getting their annual report in on AIDS stand up like Luc Montagnier and say, 'Let's remember that we are here to find a cure. And let's ask ourselves what will it take and let's get going again.'"

Although a vaccine or cure for the disease is nowhere in sight, Dr. Montagnier said it was realistic to expect an improvement in the time an HIV-positive person can live without symptoms. He said a symptom-free period of up to 20 years was achievable.

Up to now, he said, the main thrust of AIDS research had been concentrated on the HIV virus itself, rather than the immunological aspects of the disease.

سكنا من الامل

DUTCH: As Amsterdam Moves to Ban Automobiles, Business Warns Plan May Backfire

(Continued from page 1)

backed a plan for a virtually car-free center.

In the labyrinth of waterways and bridges, city engineers have already built new traffic mazes to convey the message that the car is no longer king of the road. They have turned the Damrak, the ever-congested axis between the Central Station and the Royal Palace, into a relaxed avenue with wide sidewalks and new bicycle lanes. On many streets, from the red light district to the popular Leidse Square, cars are being hemmed in by raised speed bumps and intimidating phalanxes of posts, or bollards. City workers are quietly eliminating parking spots.

"We are reconquering the lost public spaces," Mr. Flor said. "We need them for walking, cycling, shopping and sitting around, for markets, music or other street events."

If completed, the project will affect the heart of the city, the place where Amsterdam grew up around a 13th century dam in the Amstel River — giving Amsterdam its name — and where a grid of canals was built to serve the shipping needs of prosperous 17th century merchants. The canals never gave the port city enough room to lay

trucks circulate in the center, almost as many as residents," said a city traffic specialist, Dave van Ooyen. "We think the most effective instrument to reduce cars is to reduce parking. The idea is to cut parking spaces in half."

The city says it will expand metro and tram lines and plans parking garages on the city periphery. It also says it will provide more and safer locations to park and repair bicycles to encourage cyclists. Amsterdam already has a head start. As much as one-third of traffic in the city center consists of bicycles.

U.S. Offers Somalia a Hand

'Quick Reaction Force' Would Aid the UN

By Keith B. Richburg
Washington Post Service

MOGADISHU, Somalia — The Clinton administration has offered to leave behind in Somalia a mobile "quick reaction force" of Marines or army soldiers with helicopter gunships that could respond swiftly to renewed threats from the country's warlords after the bulk of U.S. troops are replaced by United Nations peacekeepers.

The U.S. special envoy, Robert B. Oakley, said Thursday that Washington offered the "quick reaction force" in response to fears from the United Nations and from countries contributing to the military coalition in Somalia that once the American forces withdrew, the warlords might be tempted to try to renew the civil war and test the mettle of the new UN troops.

"We promised to provide a quick reaction force of some kind to support the United Nations operation," Mr. Oakley said.

"Washington thought it might be wise to leave this quick reaction force," he said, "just in the event where one of these military commanders or warlords suddenly decides to surge, before you've taken down everybody's military potential."

Mr. Oakley also said that the United States was working to have a "substantial" local police force of up to 3,500 Somalis on the streets of the capital within the next few days.

He said the Americans decided to become more involved in building the new capital police force immediately after the killing of the first U.S. Marine here earlier this month, which added to concerns among U.S. officials that American troops were getting "sucked in deeper" in patrolling the capital's dangerous streets.

With the arrival of the first Marines here Dec. 9, the warlords' militias collapsed, and the young gunmen have turned increasingly to banditry to support themselves.

"The armies have disintegrated," Mr. Oakley said. "They can't fight. They can't loot. They don't have any reason to fight."

He added, "They do what they know how to do, which is use their weapons."

With the rise in vandalism, foreigners — mainly relief workers, and also journalists — became the targets, and the Marines have been called upon to provide protection.

"The Marines try to respond, and this puts them even deeper in the city, which is something we didn't want to do," Mr. Oakley said. "We got sucked more deeply into the city — which is why we need a police force, so we can pull out."

The police force will be drawn primarily from former police officers, with some former army generals and colonels. At least initially, he said,

U.S. forces will have liaison officers who will move around the city alongside the police units, and at least some of the Somali policemen would be armed. He said that the Somalis themselves came up with the plan, and that the United States is only helping with the organization, advice and logistics.

Recruiting and training a Somali national police force is supposed to be the responsibility of the United Nations, but Mr. Oakley said the United States decided to act unilaterally in forming the capital police because the UN was moving too slowly while Marines patrolling in Mogadishu had increasingly become targets for sniper attacks.

In Panama, it took a year to form a police force, Mr. Oakley said. "We can't afford to wait."

There are two things that need to be done right now, Mr. Oakley said.

The U.S. envoy repeatedly expressed some frustration or annoyance at the United Nations' slow pace in organizing a new force and setting the new rules for UN peacekeepers to make the transition soon to replace the U.S. forces on the ground. He said the United Nations had only come around this week to accepting the American view that the future UN force here must adopt the existing U.S. philosophy for combat in Somalia and the same broad rules of engagement employed by American forces.

There has been concern that without giving UN troops the same liberal "fire first" power to defend themselves against potential threats in Somalia, member-countries might be reluctant to leave their troops behind once the Americans go home.

The idea for a quick reaction force is to position a large number of U.S. troops either somewhere in the country or just off-shore to be able to respond anywhere in Somalia to outbreaks of violence, raising the prospect of direct U.S. military involvement here in a combat role for many more months.

Leaving behind such a mobile American force, Mr. Oakley said, would make the UN troops "feel better," and it would also help "discourage any of the Somali military types who felt like the situation was now such that he could take advantage of it."

Mr. Oakley said two approaches to the new force were being discussed. One idea, he said, is to leave behind a reinforced army battalion "with a lot of helicopters, a lot of mobility" that would be based in Somalia. The other option, he said, was to leave a Marine amphibious unit based on American ships that could move into the country quickly to aid the UN peacekeepers. The idea with either option, he said, was to leave behind a force of combat troops with "a lot of mobility and a lot of striking power."

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Arms Pact For Russia And India

Yeltsin Resolves Debt Dispute, Too

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
NEW DELHI — India and Russia began a new era of military cooperation Thursday with an agreement that ended worries here that the Soviet-made Indian war machine would come to a halt.

The Indian-Russian military accord signed Thursday guarantees supplies of military spare parts and conventional weapons systems. It also assures the resumption of military training programs suspended after the December 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union.

The Russians agreed to provide India with a long-range rocket despite U.S. objections. The Indians say they want the rocket as a satellite launcher. The United States worries that it could further destabilize South Asia.

The agreement was signed by the Indian defense minister, Sharad Pawar, and his Russian counterpart, Pavel S. Grachev, in the presence of President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia and Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao of India.

The two sides also announced agreement on their dispute over India's debt to Russia, but provided no details.

"It was a compromise," Mr. Yeltsin said. "I moved a little, he moved a little. As for who moved the most, let's not worry about that. The most important thing is that we reached an agreement."

India had said it owed Russia \$12 billion, while Russia had insisted that the debt was \$15 billion. The dispute stemmed from the sharp drop in the value of the ruble.

During talks with Mr. Rao, Mr. Yeltsin proposed joint ventures in spare parts, and the transfer of technology to Indian ordnance and spare-parts factories.

"Our prime minister welcomed these proposals and said all would be tried out," an Indian spokesman said, but he did not spell out whether the supplies would be paid for in hard currency or through a new rupee-ruble barter agreement.

The pact also provides for joint programs in research, maintenance and training, and for exports by India to third countries. But it did not specify the equity stakes between India and Russia in such ventures.

In addition, the accord pledged supply of aircraft spares and rocket parts, as well as components and software for air defense and for military communication systems.

The Soviet Union accounted for more than 60 percent of India's defense needs, and its breakup seriously affected the Indian armed forces.

Two-thirds of the Soviet T series tanks were not battle-ready, and the Indian Air Force was forced to cannibalize old jets to keep flying.

The three services of the Indian armed forces slashed exercises by more than 50 percent as New Delhi failed to find new sellers in the former Soviet bloc, and the West could not service the country's Soviet-built weaponry. (AFP, AP)



Mr. Yeltsin and his wife, Naina, linking hands around a 4th century pillar on the grounds of a Muslim monument in New Delhi on Thursday, in keeping with a legend that the gesture brings good fortune.

ASIAN TOPICS

Korean Immigrants in Japan Often Opt to Remain Korean

When Koreans migrate to the United States, Canada or Australia, they usually act quickly to become citizens of their new countries. But most of Japan's 600,000 Koreans, in Japan for three generations or more, and in many ways indistinguishable from Japanese, have chosen to remain Korean, Reuters reports from Tokyo.

A Japanese expert on Korea, Katsumi Sato, predicts, "The number of Koreans in Japan will gradually drop as they become Japanese, as did the previous two big waves of immigrants from Korea in the 6th and 16th centuries. In 30 to 50 years, there will be none left."

But Japanese nationality is a highly sensitive issue for Koreans, many of them descendants of people forced to come to work in mines or factories when Korea was a colony of Japan in the first half of this century. During colonial rule, Japan suppressed Korean culture and language.

Justice Ministry figures show that since World War II, 161,212 Koreans have acquired Japanese nationality. But in a book called "The Identity of

Koreans in Japan," Lee Kinam, 36, writes, "We are neither Korean nor Japanese." Mr. Lee, who works in the Tokyo branch office of a Korean company, said his "Korean-ness" barred him from getting a job with a Japanese concern.

Mr. Sato disagrees, pointing to a 1974 legal decision that Koreans cannot be denied jobs because of their ancestry.

Around Asia

Hamish Macleod, financial secretary of the Hong Kong government, will auction off his automobile registration number to raise money for charity, a government spokesman said this week. Mr. Macleod's license plate, with the single numeral "2," will join other "lucky numbers" to be sold at auction Feb. 27. Hong Kong's Transport Department regularly auctions off "lucky" license plate numbers, the local equivalent of vanity plates, with proceeds going to charity. In 20 years, 167 million Hong Kong dollars (\$21.4 million) has been raised.

The average Tokyo child has no fewer than 411 toys that cost a total of \$1,530, according Japan's Product Science Research Institute, which is funded by a the Sezon Group, a retail chain. The survey of children up to 11 years old was limited to 59 volunteer households, so the average may not be completely scientific. It also counted each of the cars in a toy car collection, for instance, as separate items.

Arthur Higbee

Military Reshuffle Weakens Chinese Clan

By Sheryl WuDunn
New York Times Service

BEIJING — The Communist Party has completed a military reshuffle that may be the most comprehensive in four decades, apparently in part to avert simmering power struggles that could erupt after the death of the 88-year-old senior leader, Deng Xiaoping.

Few institutions in China are so crucial to the country's future as the People's Liberation Army, and few are so murky.

But it is clear that one major reason for the shuffle, involving hundreds of senior military officers, is the aim of putting priority again on military modernization rather than ideological orthodoxy.

Chinese and foreign analysts say the changes are also meant to mend a split that has been widening since one faction, led by the Yang clan, ascended to power after the violent crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing in June 1989. The Yangs have now been forced out.

The changes, set in motion by the 14th Com-

munist Party Congress held in October, have trickled out piecemeal. A Beijing-controlled newspaper in Hong Kong described the shifts as the most far-reaching personnel shuffle in the army since the Communist Revolution in 1949.

Some Western diplomats also describe the personnel moves as a step toward a reassessment of the 1989 crackdown. Several generals who were promoted at the time have been demoted or dismissed, while at least one military official who disapproved of the killings appears to have been rehabilitated.

"There is sort of a reversal of verdicts, but no one will come out and say it," said a Western diplomat. "This is an opportunity to clean out people associated with it," he said, adding that the shuffle served to put behind a divisive issue within the army.

A Chinese military researcher rejected this interpretation, saying that the crackdown was a reoccurring issue in the minds of military leaders and that there were no regrets about the way it was handled.

But he agreed with Western specialists that

the shuffle had removed the Yang family, which had been in a good position to emerge as the dominant power in China after the death of Mr. Deng.

"The military must be the kingmaker and guardian," said another Chinese with ties in the military. "It must be able to support Deng Xiaoping's heir, General Secretary Jiang Zemin."

Many military officials appear happy with the changes but are concerned over whether the new leadership can transform an outmoded, people-powered military into a modern, professional and efficient institution that can become a dominant regional power.

The new military leaders, Liu Huaqing, 76, and Zhang Zhen, 85, are considered too old to carry out such a vast makeover. But Chi Haotian, 63, a general who is expected to be named defense minister in the spring, is considered a candidate to fill such a role.

"Deng will be remembered for opening two pages in the big book," said the Chinese. "The first is reform. The second is that he got rid of all the old revolutionaries from power."

Deng Joins Attack on Hong Kong

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

HONG KONG — China has launched a fresh attack on British plans for democracy in Hong Kong, with the senior leader Deng Xiaoping quoted as saying that Beijing will not give an inch on questions of sovereignty.

The attack sent the Hang Seng index, a key barometer of business confidence, down 2.1 percent to close at 5,804.50, a drop of 135.39 points and the highest one-day decline in the stock index in two months.

China's senior representative in Hong Kong, Zhou Nan, suggested that the democracy proposals were part of a British plot to keep control of the colony after it is returned to China in 1997.

Mr. Zhou, head of the Xinhua press agency branch in Hong Kong, quoted Mr. Deng as saying, "We cannot give an inch."

According to Mr. Zhou, Mr. Deng added: "Some have suggested that each side make concessions. The Joint Declaration, the Basic Law and agreements reached by Britain and China must be strictly implemented. Not one word can be changed."

It was unclear when Mr. Deng had been speaking.

Mr. Zhou said it was believed that Britain changed its policy toward Hong Kong after Chris Patten became governor last year because some senior figures in London believed China, like the former Soviet Union, was destined to fall apart. (Reuters, AFP)

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ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

In view of the United Nations debate on the recognition of the republic of Skopje, the Senate of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki wishes to make the following statement to the international community.

1. The Senate proclaims its belief in the canons of peaceful co-existence and the principle of self-determination; but it also holds that international disputes should be resolved on the basis of the soundest argument.

2. The Senate applies the same principles to the thorny problem of the recognition of the republic of Skopje. A population, even a multi-ethnic one, unquestionably has the fundamental right to assume the status of an autonomous nation, provided it fulfills the conditions laid down by International Public Law.

3. However, the new state's founding charter must preserve peace, safeguard human rights, and fulfill the necessity for good relations and sincere co-operation

with its neighbours, especially at a time when countries all over the world are so closely dependent on one another.

Therefore, neither the name nor the constitutional charter of the nascent state should contain ethnological implications or irrelevant allusions which are prejudicial to neighbouring countries - as does the name "Macedonia". Moreover, the distortion of history and the appropriation of another nation's historical symbols (such as the ancient Greek symbol which Skopje's parliament has adopted for the new republic's flag) are not only manifestations of cultural high-handedness, but also violate the principles of the peaceful co-existence of nations.

The Senate appeals to the International Organizations and the members of the United Nations that international recognition of the new state be based on a just and viable solution which will do justice to the historical rights of Greece.

THE RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY
Prof. ANTONIOS TRAKATELLAS

Ignoring Khmer Rouge, UN Sets Cambodia Vote

BEIJING — Cambodia will hold elections on May 23-25, whether or not the Khmer Rouge agrees to participate, a United Nations spokesman said Thursday.

UN-organized elections for a Constituent Assembly are intended to secure lasting peace after 12 years of civil war in the Southeast Asian nation.

The dates were given by the head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, at a meeting in Beijing of

Cambodia's Supreme National Council. The council, chaired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, groups the four rival Cambodian factions, including the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge, whose brutal rule in the mid 1970s killed more than a million Cambodians, missed a UN-imposed deadline for registering to contest the elections.

A UN spokesman, Eric Falt, said it was still technically possible for the group to take part, but the election dates could not be changed.

"If the Khmer Rouge decided to join in at a later date they could find a way," he said. But he added that the group had made no indication on Thursday of a change of mind.

The group has refused to allow UN inspectors into areas it controls, and its fighters have repeatedly attacked UN forces.

The Khmer Rouge says the elections will not be fair because of what it calls the presence of large numbers of Vietnamese in Cambodia. Vietnam invaded Cambodia in December 1978 to end the Khmer Rouge's rule.

Under a peace agreement signed

in 1991 by all four factions, the 22,000-strong UN peacekeeping force — the largest such operation in history — is supervising the running of the country until the elections.

But the Khmer Rouge's refusal to disarm and increasing political violence has put the accord in jeopardy.

The meeting Thursday had been scheduled to discuss presidential elections, but this was dropped after a statement by Prince Sihanouk on Tuesday that such a vote should take place after the Constituent Assembly had been established, Mr. Falt said.

French Firm Might Still Bid For New York Public Toilets

NEW YORK — The New York City Council, clarifying its position on the conditions on a proposed city franchise for public toilets, will not require bidders to design a single public toilet for both handicapped and nonhandicapped users.

As a result, the French company that tested a design in the city last summer said it could still compete in the bidding.

Council officials said that although they would not require bidders to come up with one toilet design for all users, they intended to give preference to such a design.

JCDcaux International, the French company that experimented with public toilets that included separate lavatories for handicapped and nonhandicapped people, said it considered its design superior.

"We think we are able to compete on an even basis, and we still think that the double-unit system is better," said Jean-Francois Decaux, chief executive of the company.

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Herald Tribune

Who's the Ringmaster?

On-the-job training is a messy process, and when you are president everyone gets to watch. Clinton's early moves on the budget have been a three-ring circus of novice mistakes.

Mr. Clinton needs a way out. But a debate that focuses on which energy sources to tax will obscure much larger policy questions: Should Washington put more emphasis on taxing spending and less on taxing income?

Obstacles in Cambodia

The United Nations peace plan for Cambodia is under severe strain, and some of the plan's supporters are eager to surrender to despair. But it is too early — and unthinkably unfair to Cambodia — to conclude that significant pieces of the plan cannot be saved.

One part that may not be saved is the hope of keeping the country whole. The Khmer Rouge, the Communist movement that conducted genocide in the 1970s, refuse either to demobilize or to take part in elections planned for May.

Go for Open Skies

U.S. airlines do not like British Airways' 20 percent purchase of financially ailing USAir for \$300 million. Fearing competition from the merged company, they are pressuring the Clinton administration to reject the deal.

USAir and then switch to British Airways the impression that they are flying on one airline. Code sharing is a significant marketing advantage, a key to the British Airways strategy to win new customers.

Other Comment

Russia Cannot Be Ignored
Looming bigger than all other regional problems, and threatening in the years ahead once again to dominate America's international agenda, is Russia.

percent — and a rise in support for a "strong leader." And Russia's economic distress is deepening. Inflation is spinning out of control. The ruble's precipitous slide has destroyed savings and impoverished millions.

NATO at Issue: Go Into the Balkans or Fold Up Shop

LONDON — Looking southward in 1876, Bismarck of Germany, brotowing a phrase from Frederick the Great, recoiled from Continental responsibility: "The Balkans are not worth the healthy bones of a single Pomeranian musketeer."

By William Safire
keepers to provide humanitarian aid, treating the victims rather than confronting the perpetrators. The United Nations labors over the imposition of meaningless flight restrictions.

they wish some hawkish Americans would stop talking about serious military response, because it may jeopardize the present conscience-saving treatment of the symptoms.

in Serbia's Kosovo. This would not be a vulnerable contingent riding shotgun for the Red Cross; it would be a powerful deterrent ready to counterattack "ethnic cleansers."

Foreboding in Kosovo: This War Isn't Going to Prevent Itself

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — There is not much news from Kosovo, but there is a heavy foreboding that when the headlines come, they will be very bad. The atmosphere is poisonous, much worse than in Bosnia before the fighting started.

By Flora Lewis
There are differences among them. The leadership calls for renewed autonomy; some insist on independence; no one openly asks for unification with Albania, although that is what the Serbs believe is the real goal.

the main crossing point on the road between Pristina and Skopje, the Macedonian capital, is one white armored personnel carrier, with one heavy machine gun. The mission of the four Canadian blue berets who man it is simply to watch and report. They could do nothing else.

adds with a dry laugh, "going through what happened before." The second largest Macedonian party, the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization, not in the government, is adamantly nationalist and expansionist. It earned a fearful name for terrorism between the two world wars.

Chinese Minorities in Southeast Asia Have Cause to Be Careful

HONG KONG — Not long ago, China Daily, Beijing's English-language newspaper, prominently displayed an article headlined "Shared Heritage the Force Behind the Chinese Race." It discussed the supposed characteristics of the Chinese. These, it said, knew no geographic boundaries.

By Philip Bowring
The attraction is mainly pragmatic; China has enormous potential for economic growth and profits. But sentiment plays a role, too. Southeast Asians of all ethnic backgrounds have long saluted away part of their profits in Singapore, Hong Kong, North America and Australia.

understandable but is not always appreciated in countries where the Chinese are a commercially dominant minority. There is concern in Southeast Asia about a possible capital shortage. Direct investment from Japan is continuing to slow, meanwhile, finance for enormous levels of infrastructure spending throughout the region is far outstripping growth in savings.

ments and businessmen, of whatever ethnic background, are aware of the positive role that China's economic expansion has made to regional growth in the past few years. There is a sense of regional economic community that transcends ethnic considerations. It is recognized that Chinese communities are best placed to develop China trade.

The Trend: Reduced Incentive for Overseas Chinese to Assimilate

JAKARTA — It would be surprising if the worldwide decline in ideology and the rise in ethnic consciousness left Southeast Asia untouched. The estimated 18 million Chinese who live in this part of the world are one of the world's largest and most vulnerable minorities.

By George Hicks
win the hearts of Chinese professionals from Southeast Asia. While they often have relatively low status in Southeast Asia and are treated with indifference when they visit the West, they appreciate the red carpet treatment in China. Businessmen also receive a warm welcome.

potent, the effect of sustained and rapid economic progress has been to sharply erode the capacity of indigenous governments to control Chinese economic activity, while major Chinese companies have acquired immense influence over national economic policies.

Although profitable in the short run, this is a very dangerous trend for the Chinese in Southeast Asia, where an obsession with profit is matched only by insensitivity toward the feelings of their host nations.

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OPINION

Fahd's Number Isn't an Energy Policy

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — In an era when little else separates Democrats from Republicans, energy policy still does. Democrats persist in believing that a government should have one.

ment for national behavior modification; modern Republicans see their role as facilitating the citizenry's instinct for self-gratification.

pursuing cheap energy at any cost — rather than letting rising energy prices enforce economic efficiency on industry and consumers — can be seen in the collapse of the rigid economic structure of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

attention of the incoming Democrats and remind them of Saudi Arabia's importance.

'Everybody Does It'? Tell That to Zoë

By Richard Reeves

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico — At 6:35 A.M. on Jan. 20, a Bernalillo County deputy sheriff named Mark Samrock stopped a car on a highway near here and began writing a ticket charging the driver with speeding — 45 miles per hour in a 35 mile per hour zone.

lilled the ticket, citing the old law. But by then the press had gotten hold of the tape, and telephones were ringing all over the state in the offices of other legislators and officials.

with all but the most egregious felonies. Populist ideas like this will soon be attacked as just envious privilege-bashing.

MEANWHILE

Deputy Samrock, quoted (correctly) an 80-year-old state law prohibiting the arrest of state legislators for most infractions short of homicide or treason, if they are on their way to the capitol in Santa Fe.

The voice of the people is heard in the land. Its code name is "Zoë" — the message, a populist one, is Bill Clinton said during his campaign, that we are all supposed to be playing by the same rules.

The tabloid press, which once served and titillated what used to be called "the common man," is now gone. That created a vacuum, which has, we now see, been filled by a new kind of popular penny press largely dominated by talk radio and TV.



By MIKE in Yehor Ahemov (Tol Aviv), C&W Syndicate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Looking at Germany: An Ongoing Debate

Regarding "Germany: The Descendants Are Plain Dangerous" (Opinion, Jan. 8) by Michael Peterson:

In fact, Mr. Peterson was observed by a civilian employee of the police department driving into the service plaza and taking a sizable trash bag from his car.

GEROLD WIEBER, Darmstadt, Germany.

GIANFRANCO BONETTI, Moscow.

As an American living in Germany, I became concerned that Mr. Peterson's personal circumstances were being used to condemn all Germans.

Mr. Peterson says that "Germans have forfeited forever any right to exercise the freedom to hate or terrorize."

I determined from the regional police office at Darmstadt that in the automobile accident involving Mr. Peterson's son, police were summoned to the scene at 11:40 P.M. on Nov. 6 and found evidence of a crash — a blown tire, pieces of a left front fender. No car was present.

As an Italian who has been living in Germany, I find the three episodes utterly undeserving of comment, except for the hatred they seem to inspire in Mr. Peterson toward everything German.

The police officers drove north on the autobahn about 3 kilometers (2 miles). At a parking area, they found an American-licensed Chevrolet with damage to the fender and no left front tire. The engine was still hot but there was no one around.

Why your otherwise excellent newspaper allows such garbage to be printed is beyond me.

In the second incident, Mr. Peterson says that on discarding a trash bag at an autobahn rest stop, he was "immediately rushed by undercover police who flashed badges," suggesting that there was more than one police officer.

Mr. Peterson replies: I both expected a personal attack and was warned of one. I told my son he might be a target for a disinformation campaign.

The Clinton presidency A new crisis in Croatia Confrontation with Iraq Continued agony in Bosnia The Palestinian deportees Showdown

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PARIS FASHION

A Social Triumph for de la Renta

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — If social clout counts, Oscar de la Renta has had the biggest hit in town. His Balmis show Thursday that closed the couture week had the longest lineup of the swankiest clients who just loved it all: the oh-so-wearable suits; the oh-so-pretty chiffons; the joy of having the Prince Charming of American fashion in Paris couture. "Perfectly beautiful," breathed Barbara Walters. "Very nice, very casual, very well-cut, I will surely buy it," said Marie-Hélène de Rothschild, in fur-trimmed Saint Laurent. "I thought it was wonderful — I loved the chiffon," said Venet-suited Mica Ertegun. "Real clothes, for real people, like Balmis did," said Christine de Polignac, in a chic purple Guy Laroche suit. "I'm very proud for America," said the outgoing ambassador's wife, Mary Curley, wearing a bright patchwork Givenchy jacket. Valentino, who went kiss, kiss, kiss past the ladies in de la Renta's audience, paid a handsome tribute. "Oscar did a good job for the house of Balmis," he said. "He knows what women want. I don't feel he is a competitor. Everyone has their space."

The show at the packed Ecole des Beaux-Arts was a social happening. But what about the clothes? They were pretty nice. Even nice and pretty. But the combination any way you like as de la Renta did when his suits came out in pairs, a curving pinstriped jacket long, or a bit shorter, with skirts ditto. Two thirty winks at the back stopped the over-the-knee skirts from looking dowdy. Deep-crowned hats gave some pizzazz.

Well, that's what the ladies want: a suit in pale cream; a suit in navy with a touch of white; a chiffon dress with a few graceful pleats. So, the black organza, tiered dresses looked like Chanel. But there was a rose instead of a camellia. And anyway, Lagerfeld is off and away on another fashion trip.

If the day clothes were conventional, de la Renta did pretty things at night with light layers of lace and raffia embroidery. He made a couple of mild show-stoppers: a punched gold leather jacket and a sweeping copper faille coat.

Marella Agnelli, sleek in a green Givenchy suit, had the last word on couture rivalry. "You put me in a great embarrassment," she said. "This collection I think I prefer Oscar, but next time..."

Valentino sent out a very pretty, light-handed collection that caught



Oscar de la Renta takes his bow at Balmis.

fashion's ethereal spirit — but you needed a sweet tooth and a penchant for decoration to take it. "Very pretty, very primavera, very light — the dresses weigh only two grams," claimed Valentino. Although the clothes were airy and easy, nothing — from a scalloped collar to the pants with a frill of chiffon at the ankle — escapes

Valentino's lust for decoration. Like a pastry chef in thrill to his skills, he can't let a skirt go by without making a *millefeuille* of chiffon layers. A simple black jacket? Out with the whipped cream for a trickle of white round the edges. The vest underneath gets pleats. The blouse with it has a tracery of lace all over the collar. Lace has

metallic inserts of some wedding-cake of a cathedral. Gloves and shoes look like a lace dolly.

Valentino's main trick — a dazzling piece of couture craftsmanship — was to use tiny tubes of silk as though whipped cream had been piped over the bosom.

Even Ladies Who Lunch cannot live on pastries alone. Pantsuits for day were fine — a soft crepe cartigan jacket with a ruffled edge or a briefer bolero. Bot Valentino's over-the-knee skirts, from parca drapes to fancy ribbon decoration, were indigestible. He served up light skirts at night.

It was an emotional moment when Hubert de Givenchy, wearing a black mourning tie and visibly overwhelmed, took a brief bow at the end of his show. The most distinguished of couturiers would perhaps have been so vulgar as to dedicate his elegant collection to the late Audrey Hepburn, his friend and muse for 40 years until her death last week. Yet her gamine spirit was stitched in every seam of the acaut navy suits with white piqué collars, the slim dresses with discreetly cutaway backs, the chic, short black trench.

Jackets were cropped short — a strong tendency this couture season — pants and skirts, as at all the conventional houses, above the knee. The gusts of change in current fashion blew here as a gentle breeze. Givenchy caught the hot wind from Africa in muddy tribal prints on silk. Bared midriffs at night also gave dash to the slim-line summer evening clothes.

The distance between the wild shores of fashion creativity colonized by ready-to-wear and the familiar landscape of client couture has never seemed so huge as this season. It was underlined Thursday when fashion press had the surreal experience of going from the Balmis couture collection for summer, to the autumn/winter show of avant-gardist Yohji Yamamoto, who kicked off the menswear season.

What is ultimately the point of the couture shows? To serve clients, who this season included veiled princesses from Bahrain as well as American socialites? To attract media attention? To boost the image of a house for a luxury conglomerate? The confusion was epitomized by Oscar de la Renta's Balmis show, where a scrubby display of the house's new watch design greeted arriving guests.

There were two stand-out shows in the Paris week: Chanel, where Lagerfeld gets high-voltage energy and a modern spirit on the runway; and Christian Lacroix, who is an artist and brings a fresh spirit to the traditional crafts of haute couture.

HEAR THIS

After months of protests, diatribes and sit-downs, New York City is trying another approach to racial healing. An assortment of top comics will appear June 6 at the Lincoln Center in a benefit for the city's Increase the Peace volunteers, a group that works to ease racial tensions around the Big Apple. The show will be part of a 10-day comedy festival that promises to bring dozens of comedians to the city from June 3-12, the organizer and comedian Alan King told AP. "This could not have come at a better time. We've got a city full of people who could use a good laugh," said Mayor David Dinkins.

Down by the Sea for Health

By Alexander Lobrano

PARIS — Almost ever since mankind's ancestors first slithered ashore, people have considered a good dip in the sea to be one of life's greatest pleasures. Maybe it's due to some prehistoric ostealgia, or it could be explained by the fact that the chemical composition of human blood closely resembles seawater.

This simple and broadly shared pleasure is the bottom line reason for the huge popularity in France of a series of marine-based spa treatments that are collectively known as *thalassothérapie*.

The core principle of *thalassothérapie* is that systematic immersions in seawater can help to restore the body's basic chemical balance, specifically renewing our reserves of magnesium, iodine, calcium and other oligo-elements that are naturally found in the blood in only trace dosages and which are easily depleted by stress, bad diet and pollution.

As is indicated by archaeological sites like the Rameus de Saint-Hilaire, a ruined Roman spa on the Ile Noirmoutier in the Atlantic just off the coast from the Vendée region of France, this is not a new idea. The benefits of seawater, sea mud and seaweed have been recognized by a variety of cultures throughout history. In the Vendée, for example, the locals have been dabbling themselves with sea mud to heal wounds and cure rheumatism for centuries. The first medically systematic seawater therapy institute was founded at Margate in England in the late 17th century by Dr. Richard Russell and Russell's treatments were later adopted by the initial French institute, which was founded in Dieppe in 1778.

The modern incarnation of marine medicine places an emphasis not only on the invigorating aspects of seawater, however, but also targets the most broadly afflicting malady to be found in most developed countries — stress. "Many of our customers are so exhausted and anxious when they arrive that they go into sort of a state of shock once they start to relax," says Cecile Lagarrigue, director of the Thermes Marins, a *thalassothérapie* center in Saint-Jean-de-Monts on the Atlantic coast in the Vendée.

"So we aim to help people re-achieve their personal equilibrium, both physically and mentally. A warm, friendly environment, as opposed to the cold, clinical nature of many traditional spas, is the first key to helping people let go," adds Lagarrigue. Like almost all French sea-spa centers, the Thermes Marins is an attractive modern structure minutes from beautiful beaches. Such a setting, along with the fact that spa cures are, on an individual case basis, some-

times reimbursed by the French national health system, goes a long way towards explaining the popularity of *thalassothérapie* in France. Since clean seawater is crucial — in most *thalassothérapie* centers you never come in contact with fresh water — these spas often occupy stunning coastal sites near appealing cities and towns.

Among the 30-odd *thalassothérapie* centers in France there are institutes in Dinard, Brittany, La Baule, Les Sables d'Olonne and Biarritz on the Atlantic and Hyères, Cap d'Agde, La Grande Motte, Port Camargues and Portofino (Corsica) along the Mediterranean.

After being popularized among the jet set by Louise Bobet and other early postwar practitioners, the most recent French take on

The ocean's benefits have been recognized by cultures throughout history.

the benefits of seawater began in earnest in 1964 when Bobet opened an enormous *thalassothérapie* center in Quiberon. This center pioneered many of the treatments that have since become standard parts of a *thalassothérapie* cure, including seaweed baths and aerosol inhalations of various marine essences, the idea here being to re-create the energizing negative ion mists that are naturally present at the beach.

THE treatments included in your cure will depend on what your motivations are. The most common program is a "renseignement" or a general physical renewal, with the goal of leaving you well-exercised, relaxed and in a generally good physical equilibrium. Other programs are designed for pregnant and post-delivery women, people who want to lose weight and/or stop smoking or drinking, as well as stroke patients, people who suffer from arthritis, rheumatism and a variety of other illnesses. Most experts suggest a weeklong cure, but many spas also have three-day and four-day programs. Note as well that almost every center also offers aesthetic treatments — facials, pedicures, etc.

A recent weekend *renseignement* program at the Thalassa Hyères, which opened in June 1992, began with the doctor's visit that is required by all centers. After the doctor had filled out a questionnaire and done a reasonably thorough exam, the doctor diagnosed the patient, quite correctly, as

suffering from stress, a fatty diet and a lack of exercise. Her prescription was an every-other-day program consisting of seaweed therapy, a session of saltwater jets, a high-pressure hosing down, and a whirlpool massage bath, seaweed therapy, the underwater jets again and another hosing down. This round of treatments lasted about four hours every morning. In between, there was a sauna, steamroom, and, in the summer, a huge terrace overlooking the Mediterranean.

If all of the treatments were pleasant, it was the whirlpool bath dosed with powdered seaweed and sea minerals that was really delightful. Seaweed therapy took a bit of getting used to, the first step to assume a breezy attitude when you're lying naked on an examination table (most of the center's staff are female), but then this probably wouldn't be a problem for anyone coming from spa country, which, in Europe roughly follows the outlines of the Roman Empire.

The attendant paints your body with a green paste of hot seaweed, wraps you in giant sheets of plastic wrap, covers you with a heat-reflective blanket and then leaves you to bake for 10 minutes. The idea is to facilitate an interaction between the different varieties of seaweed that possess an array of antibiotic properties, including a natural antibiotic action and a concentration of essential minerals 50 to 10,000 times more intense than is found in seawater. High-powered hosing jets are designed to loosen cellulite and facilitate circulation, while most of the baths are intended to relax and impregnate you with good things from the sea.

And the verdict? Along with a general glow of well-being and softer skin, *thalassothérapie* produces an astonishing capacity to consume a huge lunch and nap all afternoon with great success.

Anyone who speaks French and is seriously planning a *thalassothérapie* retreat might be well advised to consult "Le Guide de la Remise en Forme" by Cecile Debayle (M. A. Editions), a spa guide that describes and rates the various centers, as well as recommending restaurants and historical attractions in the vicinity.

The Acoor Group runs 10 *thalassothérapie* centers all over France. For more information call Destination *Thalassothérapie* at 45.51.19.22. Other centers: Les Thermes Marins de Saint-Jean-de-Monts, Avenue de Pays de Monts, 85160 Saint-Jean-de-Monts, tel: 51.52.18.18, and Les Thermes Marins de Saint-Malo, Grande Plage du Sillon, BP 32, 35401 Saint-Malo, tel: 99.40.75.75.

Alexander Lobrano is a journalist based in Paris.

Greek Classics: Athens' Ouzo Bars

By Cynthia Hacinli

ATHENS — Tavernas get all the press, but the *ouzeri* may well be the definitive dining experience in Greece. These bars-cum-estaterias, the Greek answer to the *tapas* bar, offer a window on the city's social life and cuisine.

Casual and affordable, *ouzeris* are the place to dish with friends and family over a spread of Greek appetizers, known as *mezedes*.

*Ouzeri*s take their name from the national drink, the clear anise-flavored spirit, *ouzo*. Twenty years ago, the *ouzeri* was essentially a workman's bar, a place to stop off after a long day for a drink and a plate of *tsatziki*. Of late, though, the *ouzeri*s have caught on with the middle and upper classes who gather there for lunch or dinner. Typically, an *ouzeri* will offer several brands of *ouzo*, Greek wines and European and American beers.

In Athens, many *ouzeris* seem to be oar areas visitors frequent, but for some reason, they attract few tourists.

Apotos, a couple of blocks from Syntagma Square, is oldest of the lot. It was originally a grocery that opened in another location in 1905. Walls painted brick red lead warmth to the cavernous room, and the dozens of vintage posters from the days when ads for Pommery Champagne came on painted tin would dazzle a collector. Given

the clutter of plates and the conversational hum, it's easy to see why *Apotos* is such a hit with politicians and media types at lunch: Secret deals stay secret. And if one needs to make a quick exit, parliament is but a few blocks away.

Hundreds of bottles of *ouzo* and wine line the shelves against the wall. An acquired taste for many, *ouzo* can be ordered straight, but most prefer one part *ouzo* to two parts water.

One can order off *Apotos*'s extensive menu or point to choices behind the glass counter. At To Gerani, pick-me-up is the modus operandi. On a quiet street in the Plaka, this is old-world charm, Greek style. A canvas-canopied porch with red awnings is a welcome retreat after a trek to the Acropolis or a stroll through the Plaka's maze of gold and leather shops.

While the veranda and skinny second floor balconies are the obvious places to sit on a sunny day, it's worth taking a turn inside. The whole tableau has a cinematic quality, and that's half the attraction of the place.

No less picturesque is *Avyssinia*, in the flea market district north of the Plaka known as Monastiraki. An odd assortment of shops lines these narrow, winding streets. During the week *Avyssinia* is an elegant oasis from the bustle. On weekends, the two or three outdoor tables give way to more than a dozen and *Avyssinia* Square, which doesn't appear

on any map, becomes a magnet for hip Athenians who tool up on their Harleys and join the resident accordionist in song. A cynic might characterize this as another scene out of an updated "Zorba," but it's great fun.

Two other *ouzeris* that take a modern approach to classic Greek fare are *Giali Kafene* and *To Kafanio*, both in the chic Kolonaki neighborhood on the southern slope of Mount Lycabettus. Patrons here tend to be well-heeled and a bit older than the others.

Giali Kafene, on a tiny residential street, has a few umbrella tables spilling onto the sidewalk, but most diners sit inside at small marble tables crammed together, French bistro style.

To Kafanio, one block over, has more of a restaurant feel, with well-spaced tables, wainscoted walls and a sleek glass and wood door-window at the entrance.

To Kafanio's elegance doesn't dampen the spirits of the crowd. Couples, families, a group of women out for a night on the town are all chatting animatedly. Gazing around one is reminded of the ancients who gathered in a marketplace not far from here to talk, to argue and to learn. One of them, Euripides, would have found it all good theater.

Cynthia Hacinli, who writes frequently about food and travel, wrote this for The New York Times.

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DORDEogne - BEAUTIFUL HOUSE

THE MOVIE GUIDE
"GUNCRAZY"
Directed by Tanja Davis, U.S.
That there's a film noir in the 1990s is stunningly apparent in "Gun Crazy," an accomplished, cruelly entertaining movie. As its murderous young lovers it stars James Le Gros and Drew Barrymore, who gives the kind of performance that can transform a sweetly competent actress into a major screen personality.
"Hexed"
Directed by Alan Spencer, U.S.
"Hexed" could just as well be titled "Sketched" — it feels like a comedy club parody of "Basic Instinct" and "Fatal Attraction." Unfortunately, "Body of Evidence" beat it to the punch lines.
Peter's Friends
Directed by Kenneth Branagh, U.K.
Kenneth Branagh and Emma Thompson, Britain's theatrical royals, are so gifted at ensemble comedy that they can take a sad song — old college friends reuniting at a family estate during Christmas — and make it better.
Alphonsia Emmanuel in "Peter's Friends"
and Thompson as a beguiling maid mad to marry. Stand-up comedian Rita Rudner wrote the script and plays a Hollywood wife opposite Branagh, a boozing producer. It's an antic on the sadder side of aging with wild and sad moments, spinsters and Jamesian bachelors who look as if they had just been sprung from an older England.
COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

سكنا من الامم

LEISURE

New Food Star Rises in France

By Patricia Wells
International Herald Tribune

SAINT-ETIENNE, France — Diners searching for the key to the future of grand French cuisine need only take a detour to the city of Saint-Etienne — 65 kilometers (40 miles) southwest of Lyon — where the 42-year-old Pierre Gagnaire continues to offer a personal style of cooking filled with art, poetry, audacity, and rich, classical flavors.

The tall, blonde, energetic Michelin two-star chef (and a worthy candidate for a coveted third star) recently transferred his restaurant from an airy, loft-like space in the center of town, to a perfectly classic Art Deco mansion, built by a local pharmacist in 1930 as a house designed for gastronomic celebration.

Open since September, Pierre Gagnaire's new restaurant (replacing the space he occupied in Saint-Etienne since 1981) displays to best advantage the chef's love affair with all that's modern and thoughtfully designed.

Like Gagnaire's cuisine — a poetic style grounded in the classics but offering bold touches of creativity, enthusiasm and humor — the house faces past, present and future artistic traditions. The dining experience, in fact, is much like that of feasting in a bright, modern, living museum, where many shades of white and ivory serve as background for bold touches of plum, celery, tomato, and chestnut.

THE cuisine, refined but not overly serious, follows suit with an enthusiastic mix of herbs, spices, reductions of fruits and juices, to create unusual but ever satisfying flavors. Gagnaire classics, such as his tempura of langoustines or giant prawns, rabbit cooked in the rich red wine of Hermitage, or duck roasted with cinnamon, are included, along with innovative dishes as a cream of white beans and truffles, lettuce leaves stuffed with Bresse hen livers, sautéed periwinkles, sliced truffles and celery root, crusty potatoes with farm-raised quail, whole grains of roasted chocolate and lacquered foie gras; and wild-thyme roasted

saddle of hare, with a compote of red cabbage, purple plums and red currant juice.

The wine selection is vast and varied: Recently sampled gems include a crisp and mildly acidic white 1991 Meocon-Salon, Domaine Henry Pellé, from the Loire, and a smooth and warming 1988 red Saint-Joseph, from Pierre Gaillard in the Rhône valley.

For a young man who was born in a hamlet of 300 inhabitants and from birth was destined to take over the family's modest and ultra-traditional auberge, Gagnaire has had to be different and make the traditional dining experience a bit different. He remains in his adopted gray, lifeless city of Saint-Etienne, "without a view of the sea, without majestic mountains, without a picturesque countryside" because his clients have kept him there. Let's hope they let him stay on.

Pierre Gagnaire, 7 Rue Richelandière, 42000 Saint-Etienne, France. Closed Sunday evenings, Feb. 13 to 26 and Aug. 14 to 23. Tel: 77.42.30.90. Fax: 77.42.30.95. Menus at 260, 390, 465, and 635 francs. A la carte, about 600 francs, not including wine.

Piave Rafts: Old Venice's Lifeline

By Roderick Conway Morris

CODISAGGO, Italy — Late last summer three craft appeared in Venice of a type that had not been seen there for well over half a century. They were rafts, crewed by villagers from the Belluno region, that had made their way down the river Piave from the Dolomites to the sea. In Venice's heyday 3,000 or more such rafts made this arduous and frequently hair-raising journey every year, shooting the Piave's rapids and negotiating its shifting shoals on the way to the lagoon, to bring wood for buildings, boats and the sea-going vessels on which the Venice's power and wealth depended.

Traditional rafting on the Piave came to an end in the late 1920s, when the first dams for hydroelectricity and irrigation interrupted its flow and railways began to offer a cheaper alternative for freight. But happily the children and grandchildren of the last rafters, learned the art of building and navigating the craft before the last old-timers died during the 1980s.

"international" epithet a vain exaggeration: the Codisago initiative has already during the last few years stimulated the revival of rafting for study and pleasure in Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Spain and Sweden, and information and contacts are being sought in countries as far-flung as Bolivia, Romania, Thailand and China.

"Rafting on the Piave," said Giovanni Caniato, a Venetian historian, archivist and former professional waterman, "goes back at least to 1200 B. C. And, in the time of the Venetian Republic, it became a very large and sophisticated operation."

Venetian merchants owned forests, organized the selection and felling of the timber and had it brought down to their own water-powered sawmills on the banks of the Piave. There, the wood was cut into standard size planks and beams, and bound together with specially-cultivated hazel saplings, which were flexible and could be knotted, but were much stronger than rope.

"Though other goods such as charcoal, iron and livestock were sometimes carried, the essential merchandise was the raft itself," said Caniato.

A NORMAL raft was nearly 20 feet (6 meters) long and weighed around 20 tons. Guiding one with three, and later four, steering oars was exhausting and perilous. At several points along the way, the crews would hand their rafts over to a new team and return on foot to their own village — these "Rafters' Paths" being amply supplied with hostesses offering wine, women and song to relieve the rafters of their wages. When the rafts finally reached

Venice they were dismantled, often on that section of the city's foreshore still called Le Zattere ("the Rafts").

The system of staging and changing crews could not, however, be used in the case of the massive rafts built to convey exceptionally long sections of timber destined for the shipyards of Venice's Arsenal. "These rafts were 30 to 35 meters long," Caniato said, "and once they were launched they were just about unstoppable, so the same crew stayed aboard all the way down to the lagoon."

When regular rafting ceased on the Piave, said Franco Da Rif, the Codisago museum's director, some of the men from there and the neighboring villages set out to seek their fortunes elsewhere.

On a recent trip to Austria, Da Rif met rafters who had worked with Piave migrants, and discovered that the introduction of the Italians' more expert techniques for building the craft had made it possible to construct rafts higher upstream, since they were better able to withstand white-water buffeting.

"We aim," said Da Rif, "to meet in different countries every year, build rafts, and make a journey. This year we'll be on the Klarälven in Sweden in early August, and before that we hope to be on the Durance in southwest France in May."

The Centro Internazionale di Studi sulle Zattere is at Via XX Settembre 14, 32010 Codisago di Castelvetro, Belluno, Italy. Tel: 043.777.2371/771057. Fax: 043.777.2373.

Roderick Conway Morris lives in Italy and writes for The New York Times and The Spectator.

THE ARTS GUIDE

AUSTRIA

Vienna
Kunsthistorisches Museum (tel: 52.177). To June 27: "Die Welt der Maya." More than 300 objects explore the world of the Mayas, ranging from Belize, El Salvador and Guatemala to Honduras and Mexico.

BELGIUM

Antwerp
Koninklijk Museum voor Schone (tel: 235.78.09). To March 7: "De Bruegel e Rubens: L'Ecole de Anvers: 1550-1650." One hundred and fifty works by local artists such as Frans Floris, Maerten de Vos, Pourbus, Snijders and Van Dijk.

BRITAIN

London
The Fitzwilliam Museum (tel: 332.900). To March 28: "Battle of Britain: The War Generation 1914-1918." Drawings and watercolours by artists such as Murhead Bone, John Singer Sargent and Henry Tonks.

London
Halina House (tel: 831.1772). To Feb. 14: "Sickert." One hundred and thirty-four paintings commemorating the 50th anniversary of the British artist's death.
Museum of London (tel: 600.3699, closed Mondays). To June 1: "The Purple, White and Green: Suffragettes in London, 1906-14." A re-evaluation of the early British women's movement.

CANADA

Montreal
Centre Canadien d'Architecture (tel: 838.7020). To March 14: "Toys that Teach." A presentation of works by Frederick Froebel, the creator of the Kindergarten in the 19th century, Ontario.

Art Gallery of Ontario (tel: 977.0414). To June 20: "Roman Vishniac." Vishniac's photographs document the imperiled existence of the Jewish communities in Lublin, Krakow and Warsaw in the 1930s.

THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Praque
Lobkovitz Palace (tel: 57.73.06). To March 7: "Marion Folk Art." More than 250 pictures, statues, devotional pieces and graphic art.

FINLAND

Helsinki
Eksämuuseumi Konstituutrimuseo (tel: 174.455). To Feb. 28: "Junich Art." A display of the Japanese artist's contemporary textile and ceramic works.

FRANCE

Chartres
Musée des Beaux-Arts (tel: 37.36.41.39). To March 1: "L'Œuvre Grave de Goya." More than 200 engravings by Francisco de Goya y Lucientes, including four series: Caprices, Tauromachie, Despertes and Desastres.



A self-portrait by Egon Schiele in Paris.

Paris
Musée de la Mode et du Costume (tel: 47.20.85.23). To April 25: "Au Paradis des Dames: Nouveautés, Modes et Confections." A survey of the evolution of the Parisian fashion industry between 1810 and 1870. Featuring full-scale replicas of bouillottes and fashion wares typical of the period.

Paris
Musée-Galerie de la Sella (tel: 45.56.60.17). To Feb. 27: "Egon Schiele: 1890-1918." More than 100 works on paper by the Expressionist artist. Included are drawings and acrylics.

Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle (tel: 43.36.54.26). To April 26: "Dinosaurés et Mammifères du Désert de Gobi." Features mammals and reptiles, some dating back 75 million years, from the Gobi desert.

GERMANY

Berlin
Deutsches Historisches Museum Unter den Linden (tel: 215.020). To Feb. 28: "Picasso: Die Zeit nach Guernica." More than 100 paintings and drawings by the Spanish artist after "Guernica."

Düsseldorf
Kunstmuseum Düsseldorf (tel: 839.2473). To April 18: "Gertrud

poraries: From the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston." Featuring 25 masterpieces by Monet, along with more than 35 other works by contemporary Impressionists, including works by Degas, Renoir, Cézanne and Gauguin.
Kyoto
Diamaru Museum (tel: 211.8111). To Feb. 9: "Beauty of Subtlety: Treasures of the Kanze Family." More than 140 No masks, costumes, ancient documents and books from the private collection of the head family of the Kanze school of No.
Nara
The Museum Yamato Bunkakan (tel: 245.0544). To Feb. 21: "Worlds of Art from the Edo Period." More than 50 works including painting, pottery, lacquerware and glassware.

HONGKONG

Monte Carlo
17th International Circus Festival (tel: 93.30.42.27). To Feb. 4: A celebration of the worldwide tradition of circuses, with performances by internationally renowned troupes.

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam
Museum het Rembrandt-huis (tel: 24.94.88). To Feb. 28: "Esopus." Seventy drawings and etchings by Jan de Bisschop. Includes landscapes and figure studies along with copies of paintings and drawings by the artist's contemporaries.
Van Gogh Museum (tel: 570.9200). To Feb. 7: "Glasgow 1900: Art & Design." More than 100 paintings, drawings and crafts from artists of the Glasgow School.

SWITZERLAND

Zurich
Kunsthau (tel: 251.6765). To May 2: "From the Treasures of Eurasia: Masterpieces of Ancient Art." More than 170 pieces of ancient art from the collections of the former Soviet Union, representing 18 different cultures. The objects range from the Stone Age, Egyptian, Greek, Scythian, Etruscan and Roman to Byzantine.
United States
New York
International Center of Photography (tel: 860.1783). To April 18: "From Vishniac: Man, Nature and Science 1930-85." Photos that document life in Eastern European Jewish communities before the extermination campaign by Hitler.

IRELAND

Dublin
The Irish Museum of Modern Art (tel: 718.556). To Feb. 14: "Richard Hamilton." A retrospective of paintings, reliefs and mixed-media works by the British Pop artist.

ISRAEL

Jerusalem
The Israel Museum (tel: 708.811). To March 6: "Drama Season: Paris 1890-1900." Eighty-two theater programs containing illustrations by artists such as Toulouse-Lautrec, Bonnard and Munch.

JAPAN

Kobe
Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art (tel: 801.1591). To March 21: "Monet and his Contem-

izoo Bar

VALENTINE, we are for you, I will always love my Bakersfield sweetheart, Cheryl, will you marry me, love Ed.

THERE ONCE WAS A LADY named Di who told me that I was her guy. On Valentine's day she came here to play and never, I hope, say good-bye, fr.

J.L., IN THE FRUIT SALAD OF my life, you still remain my top banana.

ONAY, if I were Yoda I'd say, "I love you, but I'd be glad to see you, but I'd be glad to see you."

First Prize \$600 cash
Second Prize \$300 cash
Third Prize \$120 cash

Classified Valentine Message Contest

Every year on February 14th, more and more people use the Trib's classified section to send a greeting to the Valentine of their choice and some of them get pretty creative.

This inspired us to have some fun with our readers by launching a contest for the most original classified Valentine. Here's how it works. Print your classified message on the form below—minimum 3 lines—and mail it to your nearest IHT office together with your remittance or your credit card reference. Your ad will run on

Valentine's day (Saturday-Sunday, February 13-14th) and that evening the jury will meet to select the winners. The results will be published in the IHT's edition of Saturday-Sunday, February 20-21st. So have some fun with us, wherever you are. Get your creative juices flowing and send in your entry today.

Herald Tribune

PARIS: 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France. Tel: (33-1) 46 37 93 85. Fax: 46 37 93 70.

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U.S.\$	60.00	80.00	100.00

Card account number: _____

Card expiry date: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____

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City/Country: _____ 29-1-93

Tel./Telex: _____

First line of text takes a maximum of 25 letters, symbols or spaces; all other lines up to 36. No abbreviations. Minimum space accepted: three lines.

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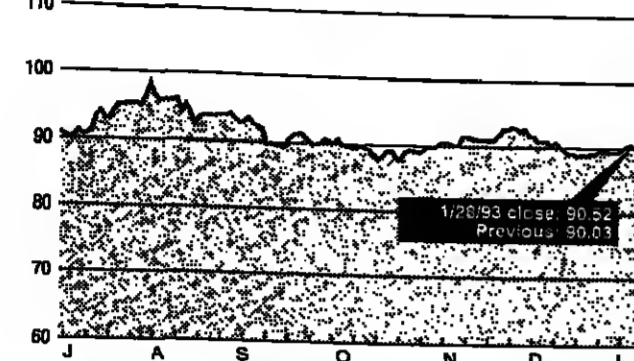
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The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. In the case of Tokyo, New York and London, the index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization. In the remaining 17 countries, the ten top stocks are tracked.

Region	Approx. weighting	Close	Prev.	Change
Asia/Pacific	25%	83.28	81.83	+1.45
Europe	40%	92.36	92.44	-0.08
N. America	35%	95.57	95.16	+0.41

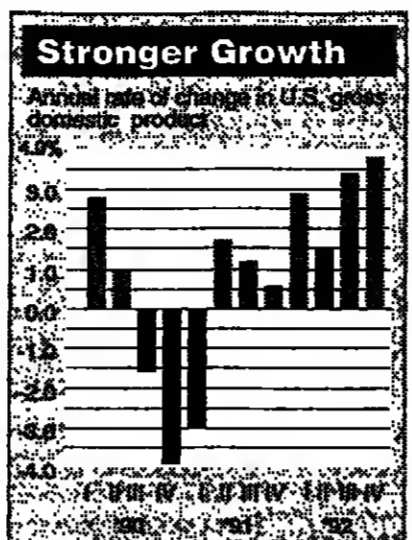
Industrial Sectors	Thru. class	Prev. class	% change
Energy	92.20	91.51	+0.75
Utilities	88.56	88.21	+0.40
Finance	83.69	82.68	+1.22
Services	103.96	103.60	+0.36
Capital Goods	90.24	89.87	+0.41
Raw Materials	92.64	92.44	+0.22
Consumer Goods	88.49	88.34	+0.17
Miscellaneous	94.80	95.70	-0.94

For readers desiring more information about the International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, a booklet is available free of charge by writing to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92221 Neuilly Cedex, France.

Consumers Give Lift to U.S. Growth

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Powered by consumer spending, the American economy finished last year with a healthy burst of growth, the Commerce Department reported Thursday, but not enough to stop President Bill Clinton from publicly worrying about the lack of new jobs.



Annual percentage change in U.S. domestic product.

In the fourth quarter, the U.S. gross domestic product grew at an annual rate of 3.8 percent, according to Thursday's first estimate, the best performance since 1989.

This figure is certain to be revised, just as the third-quarter figures were adjusted twice and settled at 3.4 percent. But most economists welcomed the two back-to-back quarters of growth as the definitive end of the four-year economic slog that marked George Bush's administration and said the economy was on an annual growth track of about 3 percent. For 1992 as a whole, the economy grew at 2.1 percent, its strongest showing since 1989.

"This is a powerful advance in the private sector and has all the characteristics of a business recovery," said Allen Sinai of Boston Co., while warning that activity in the current quarter would slip because consumer spending, capital investment, and especially the 30 percent increase in new housing could not keep pace until companies hire more workers and give them money to spend.

Final sales rose 4.5 percent, a pace most economists regard as unsustainable because consumers have been digging into savings to pay for their purchases and cut out new jobs are being created to replenish their reserves. The first quarter will also see smaller income-tax refunds than usual because of special election-year tax adjustments made in 1992.

Mr. Clinton, going into a White House meeting with Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, on Thursday morning, sounded what has become his administration's clarion call in the face of huge layoffs by major American corporations. Deflecting reporters' questions about the GDP figure, the president said he had heard "a lot of troubling news about lost jobs." He added, "We've got a lot of work to do, a lot of work to do."

His principal task now is to craft an economic program that attacks low job creation in the short run and the budget deficit in the long run — two conflicting goals, because even a slow withdrawal of the deficit stimulus will be a drag on the recovery. Even Mr. Clinton's ability to square this circle in the public eye may affect the course of the recovery itself.

David Hale of Kemper Financial Services said he figured the expansion had been partly "charisma-led" by Mr. Clinton's confidence-boosting promises of economic and political reform. The president must lay out specifics in his State of the Union address on Feb. 17, and if it bombs, he warned, "this could turn into a Cinderella recovery."

Thus Mr. Clinton's meeting with Mr. Greenspan was the monetary front of his effort to keep from turning into a pumpkin. On Wednesday, Democratic congressmen tried without success to corner Mr. Greenspan into committing the central bank to cut interest rates and take up the slack in the economy if they vote to trim the deficit by limiting spending and raising taxes. As one Democrat said, if they did the right thing they did not want to be left "twisting in the wind" by rising interest rates.

Mr. Clinton, with his senior economic aides at his side, seemed to be going about the same task with less fanfare and more subtlety. "It will be an implicit compromise, not explicit," said Mr. Hale, adding that the best Mr. Greenspan could do is say that interest rates will not go up much as the economy recovers.

Moreover, Mr. Greenspan cannot make such promises on his own. Some members of his board want to tighten monetary targets, which would mean higher interest rates as the recovery kicks in. And Mr. Greenspan himself, said David Wynn of DRI/McGraw Hill, "will take his cue from the financial market."

See GROWTH, Page 12

Schlesinger Wary On Prospects of Rate Cut Soon

By Brandon Mitchener
International Herald Tribune

BONN — The Bundesbank president, Helmut Schlesinger, turned a cold shoulder again on European hopes of an interest-rate cut anytime soon, saying Thursday that German inflation was still too high.

He said that German monetary policy could be flexible under the right conditions but that those conditions did not yet exist. "Price rises of around 4 percent in Western Germany cannot be deemed compatible with price stability," he said in a speech in Brussels. "And the overall public sector deficit is too high."

As a result of various pressures, he said that short-term interest rates would have to remain "comparatively high."

Mr. Schlesinger said at a press conference in Brussels that he would like to see an annual inflation rate not much above 3 percent by the end of 1993, the Associated Press reported.

[But he warned that it was uncertain that this level could be reached because a sharp rise in January consumer prices was likely.]

Within the Bundesbank's pursuit of medium-term monetary stability, it is "also essential to retain a certain scope for discretionary measures in the very short run as well," Mr. Schlesinger said, noting that the German central bank took account of major economic developments.

"In cases where growth prospects have deteriorated and unemployment has increased, for instance, the Bundesbank has never kept interest rates high longer than necessary if there were signs of inflationary pressures easing," he said.

Growth prospects have indeed deteriorated and German unemployment is undoubtedly on the rise, but inflation shows no signs of slowing down.

exacerbated by a rise in the rate of German value-added tax to 15 percent from 14 percent, well above the level the Bundesbank considers tolerable.

Mr. Schlesinger compared inflation to a drug and said the Bundesbank would resist assuming the role of a pusher.

"Germany has long experienced that inflation is somewhat like a drug," he said. "It is hard to give it up, but it undermines the health of the economy as a whole."

"It is not recommendable even in a period of transition to accommodate high rates of inflation," he said, adding: "The prime concern of monetary policy in Germany at present is to maintain confidence in both the D-mark and in our ability to restore price stability, the latter being the only sound basis for economic growth and high employment."

Both Mr. Schlesinger and Johann Wilhelm Gaddum, a Bundesbank director who spoke in Schwirn, focused attention on the growing international importance of the mark and the need to maintain confidence in it.

The relative strength of the mark serves the needs of Germany unity by attracting capital to the country, noted Mr. Gaddum, adding that "in every future decision about the course of monetary policy the Bundesbank will continue to ensure that there is no doubt of our commitment to stability."

Two of the Bundesbank's regional central bank presidents also signaled a hawkish stance on inflation on Thursday.

Lothar Müller, head of the Bavarian central bank, told the magazine Finanztenn that even the successful conclusion of a long-sought pact linking federal fiscal restraint to wage restraint and investments in East Germany would not pave the way for quick rate cuts.

Officials Try to Inflation Pressured Punt

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — Foreign-exchange dealers were betting on a devaluation of the Irish punt Thursday, keeping the currency below its European Monetary System floors against the Belgian franc and the guilder, but monetary officials tried to support the unit with words and deeds.

The punt ended at 54.0115 Belgian francs, below its floor of 54.0250 although up from 53.9619 on Wednesday, and it ended at 2.9500 Dutch guilders, which is less than its 2.9510 floor and down from 2.9504 on Wednesday.

"A devaluation is imminent," said Gerard Lyons, chief economist at DKB International in London. "It is only a question of timing."

But Finance Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland said reports of an imminent devaluation and other economic-policy changes in Dublin were the result of "people playing games with our currency."

Meanwhile, Belgium's central bank said it had intervened to support the punt after the Irish Central Bank's increase of a key interest rate to 100 percent from 14 percent failed to lift the currency.

In Brussels, Jean-Claude Trichet, chairman of the European Community's monetary committee, expressed his "very strong support" for the punt but refused to comment further.

The punt collapsed on Wednesday after the pound fell sharply when Britain pushed down its bank base-lending rates to 6 percent from 7 percent. About one-third of Ireland's exports go to Britain, so weakness in sterling has a large effect on the punt. On Thursday, the punt rose against the pound, which was removed from the EMS exchange-rate mechanism last year. The punt ended at about £1.0954, up from £1.0946.

Comments from the Bundesbank president, Helmut Schlesinger, that Ireland was "on the right path to keep exchange rates stable" helped underpin the punt on Thursday, although some dealers were skeptical about how far the Bundesbank would go to defend the Irish currency.

One dealer said he felt the Bundesbank was unlikely to make a sustained effort to support the punt, as it has the French franc. The German central bank's policy of high interest rates to combat inflation is widely seen as responsible for much of the turmoil in the European Monetary System in recent months.

Speculation against the weak currencies in the exchange-rate mechanism last year forced the pound and Italian lira out of the grid and led to devaluations of the Spanish peseta and Portuguese escudo.

Dealers said those currencies, along with the Danish krone and the French franc, were the weakest in the ERM.

(Reuters, Knight-Ridder, APX)

WALL STREET WATCH

Holdings May Not Benefit If GM Sells Its EDS Unit

By Floyd Norris
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — General Motors Corp. needs cash, and its Electronic Data Systems unit looks like it is saleable. So should investors who expect a takeover of the unit rush out and buy GM's class E shares, which are tied to the performance of EDS? Maybe not.

GM, in its financial innovations of the 1980s, created one of the more bizarre financial structures in American business, one that is not well understood by many holders. While class E shares pay dividends based on the earnings of EDS, the computer company started by H. Ross Perot, they do not represent ownership of it. They really represent a stake in GM itself.

Were GM to find a buyer for some of the class E shares it holds, as British Telecommunications is reported to be considering, the likelihood is that the investment would do nothing in the immediate future to help the current holders of class E.

They would continue to get their dividend stream — 36 cents in 1992 and likely to rise a bit in 1993 — but any gain in price would depend on higher EDS profits and thus could be years off.

That would likely be true even if British Telecom or another buyer were to offer an above-market price for the class E shares. Those shares rose 12.5 cents to \$33.375 Thursday on the New York Stock Exchange.

France Threatens Suit Over Hoover's Move

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — The French government Thursday threatened legal action to oppose Hoover's move to shift vacuum-cleaner production to Scotland, and said moving for cheaper wages was an abuse of the European Community's single market.

Prime Minister Pierre Bérégovoy criticized what he called "a case of social dumping that runs counter to the rules of the Community."

"Community aid to poorer regions to create jobs is fine but not if it destroys jobs elsewhere," he said.

Hoover, a unit of Maytag Corp. of the United States, said this week it would cut 630 of 700 jobs at its factory outside Dijon, and add 400 jobs at its plant outside Glasgow, where workers have agreed to cuts in pay and benefits.

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City	Rate	Term	Rate
Amsterdam	1.28	1-month	3 1/2-4 1/2
Berlin	1.28	3-months	3 1/2-4 1/2
Frankfurt	1.28	6-months	3 1/2-4 1/2
London	1.28	1-year	3 1/2-4 1/2
Madrid	1.28	1-month	3 1/2-4 1/2
Paris	1.28	3-months	3 1/2-4 1/2
Tokyo	1.28	6-months	3 1/2-4 1/2
Zurich	1.28	1-year	3 1/2-4 1/2

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Deutsche Bank (Frankfurt); Bank of Tokyo (Tokyo); Royal Bank of Canada (London); Agence France Presse (Paris); Bank of Montreal (Montreal); IMF (Zurich). Other data from Reuters and AP.

MARKET DIARY

Blue Chips Advance But Nasdaq Eases

NEW YORK — Blue-chip stocks held on to modest gains on Thursday, helped by strength in oil and drug issues, but a turnaround in bond prices kept the broad market on the defensive and over-the-counter stocks continued to retreat.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which fell 7.56 points Wednesday, rose 14.86 to 3,306.25.

Standard & Poor's 500-stock index rose 0.56 to 438.66. Advancing and declining issues were almost evenly matched. Volume remained heavy on the New York Stock Exchange at 241.7 million shares, down from 276.9 million Wednesday.

The Nasdaq Composite index, however, dropped 3.23 points to 694.67 as profit-taking continued in the wake of the recent small-stock rally.

Hildegard Zagorski, vice president for national sales at Prudential Securities Inc., said the Nasdaq remained weak "because the over-the-counter market is where all the excesses had occurred."

The bellwether 30-year Treasury bond was up 3/8 point, dropping its yield to 7.21 percent. The long bond lost its gains temporarily during the afternoon, however, pushing the yield briefly back up to 7.24 percent.

Mrs. Zagorski said the stock market was being helped by strong bond prices, aside from the afternoon price swing. Bonds, she said, drew strength from news that the implicit GDP price deflator, a key inflation measure, rose just a 1.7 percent rate in the fourth quarter.

The oil-price proposal and subsequent rise in crude prices boosted major oil stocks. Exxon Corp. rose 1/4 to 61 1/2, Mobil Corp. gained 1/4 to 63 1/2 and Chevron Corp. rose 1/4 to 72 1/2.

WellPoint Health Networks Inc. paced the Big Board advances, ending its initial day of trading at 33 1/2. The 17-million-share offering of the California-based managed health-care company was priced at \$28 a share.

Among some of the blue chips, IBM rose 1/4 to 50 1/2, Philip Morris rose 1/4 to 74 and Merck rose 1/4 to 40 1/2. AT&T slipped 1/4 to 53 1/2 despite reporting fourth-quarter earnings of 75 cents a share versus 48 cents a year ago. (UPI, Reuters)

Dealers also said an outbreak of turmoil in the European Monetary System's exchange-rate mechanism hurt the dollar by making the mark seem attractive. The Irish punt is the latest EMS currency to come under pressure.

The GDP figures were viewed as historical and not indicative of the current state of the U.S. economy. "The U.S. labor market is still very sloppy and Greenspan's explicit concern about it yesterday and today leaves the door open for the Fed to ease again," said Iouni Kokko, economist at S.G. Warburg & Co. in London.

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The Dow

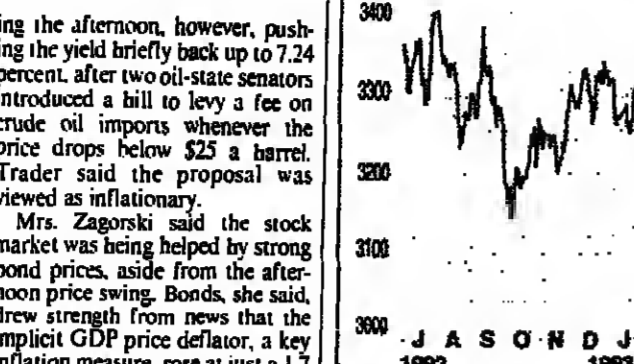


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U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

\$1 Billion Profit at AT&T

NEW YORK (AP) — AT&T said Thursday that fourth-quarter profit surged 58 percent to a record \$1 billion, while net income rose 18 percent for the year on gains at financial-services and telecommunications units.

The largest U.S. long-distance carrier said profit was 75 cents a share in the three-month period to Dec. 31, against \$635 million, or 48 cents a share, a year earlier. Revenue advanced 6.3 percent to \$17.5 billion, against \$16.46 billion in the 1991 quarter.

American Telephone & Telegraph Co. said long-distance calling volume rose 5 percent in the quarter, although revenue fell 0.7 percent, partly because business customers sought out "lower-priced higher-capacity" dedicated lines.

Chrysler Earnings Soared in Quarter

HIGHLAND PARK, Michigan (AP) — Chrysler Corp., the third-largest U.S. automaker, said Thursday it had made a net profit of \$356 million in the fourth quarter of 1992, up from \$97 million a year earlier.

That marked the best quarter since the company earned \$434 million in the fourth quarter of 1988, Chrysler said. Earnings per share were \$1.12, up from 33 cents in the final three months of 1991.

Chrysler's sales were up 24.3 percent, totaling \$10.2 billion in the fourth quarter, against \$8.2 billion in the fourth quarter of 1991. For the whole of 1992, Chrysler reported earnings of \$723 million, or \$2.21 a share, against a loss of \$795 million. Sales for the year were \$36.9 billion, up 25.5 percent on the previous year.

\$224 Million Loss at United Airlines

CHICAGO (AP) — United Airlines, the second-largest U.S. airline, reported Thursday a \$223.9 million loss for the fourth quarter of 1992, slightly better than the \$252.6 million loss for the same period of 1991.

With a pretax charge of \$62 million, the loss will be reduced to \$184 million, the airline said.

The fourth-quarter result brought United's loss for the full year to \$957 million, against a \$332 million loss for 1991. The 1992 loss included a one-time charge of \$540 million to shift to a new accounting method that would, among other things, take into account the costs of medical coverage for retired employees.

Clinton Weighs Social Security Curbs

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton is considering limits on cost-of-living increases for recipients of Social Security, the White House communications director said Thursday. George Stephanopoulos said at a news briefing that this was one of the options under consideration for a comprehensive economic recovery package.

Any attempt to alter Social Security would have to be approved by Congress. Many economists believe that cutting entitlement programs is one of the few ways of substantially reducing the U.S. deficit.

"I'll make sure that any plan we have is both fair and solves the goals of putting growth in the economy and achieving deficit reduction," Mr. Stephanopoulos said.

For the Record

Coca-Cola Co. announced Thursday an 11.8 percent gain in fourth-quarter profit, citing the success of an aggressive Christmas marketing campaign. The world's biggest soft-drink maker said net earnings, excluding the effects of accounting changes, advanced to \$400.6 million, or 31 cents a share, compared with \$358.4 million, or 26 cents a share, a year earlier.

Dow Chemical Co. said Thursday that accounting charges, weak foreign markets and lower selling prices resulted in losses for the fourth quarter and the year. The chemicals giant said its fourth-quarter loss widened to \$248 million, or 92 cents a share, from \$92 million, or 35 cents, in the same period a year ago. For all of 1992, Dow posted a loss of \$489 million, or \$1.83 a share, compared with net income of \$942 million, or \$3.46 a share, in the year-ago period.

Dealers also said an outbreak of turmoil in the European Monetary System's exchange-rate mechanism hurt the dollar by making the mark seem attractive. The Irish punt is the latest EMS currency to come under pressure.

The GDP figures were viewed as historical and not indicative of the current state of the U.S. economy. "The U.S. labor market is still very sloppy and Greenspan's explicit concern about it yesterday and today leaves the door open for the Fed to ease again," said Iouni Kokko, economist at S.G. Warburg & Co. in London.

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TO OUR READERS IN HOLLAND. It's never been easier to subscribe and save. Just call today: 02503-24024

U.S. Fee Proposal Fires Oil. LONDON — Oil prices jumped Thursday after a key U.S. senator said he would propose legislation for an oil import fee in the United States.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS. Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan, Singapore, Stockholm, Toronto, Zurich.

Stock Indexes. SP COMP. INDEX (NYSE), NYSE COMP. INDEX (NYSE), NYSE COMP. INDEX (NYSE).

Commodity Indexes. MOODY'S COMMODITY INDEX, NYSE COMP. INDEX (NYSE).

Market Guide. CME, COMEX, NYSE, NYMEX, NYMEX, NYMEX.

U.S. FUTURES. Grains, Livestock, Metals, Financial.

Stock Indexes. SP COMP. INDEX (NYSE), NYSE COMP. INDEX (NYSE).

Commodity Indexes. MOODY'S COMMODITY INDEX, NYSE COMP. INDEX (NYSE).

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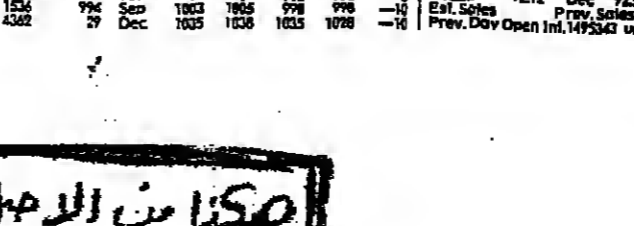
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Asda Issue Tip of an Iceberg

Offering Signals Flood of U.K. Equity Sales

By Scott Schimper
Bloomberg Business News

LONDON — Asda Group PLC offered on Thursday the first of what looks like a flood of British equity sales, with a £347 million (\$525.5 million) rights issue. "This is the first of many," said Lisa Hosking, international equity strategist at Credit Suisse First Boston. "There are enormous rights issues waiting in the pipeline," she said.

By contrast, the outlook for equity sales in Continental Europe is light, as economies there slide into recession. The only bright spots will come from the sale of state-owned companies in France and Italy.

But in Britain, with the stock market near record levels, interest rates tumbling and inflation subdued, there may be no better time to raise cash.

The Asda offering was popular with investors, and its stock rose 5 pence, to 68 pence, in heavy trading. The rights offering allows current stockholders to buy three new Asda shares at 53 pence each for every 10 shares they hold.

The supermarket chain gave investors plenty of reasons to scoop up new shares. Same-store sales for the current financial year are running 2 percent above last year, and Christmas sales were above the industry average, it said. Pretax profit will reach at least £130 million in the year that ends May 1, above analysts' estimates and a reversal of last year's £365 million loss. Total debt dropped to £449 million in mid-January from £678 million in May.

The fact Asda "outperformed the industry over Christmas is spectacular," said David Stoddart, an

analyst at Société Générale Strauss Turnbull Securities. Most important, the new cash lets Asda compete with its larger and more profitable rivals, J. Sainsbury PLC and Tesco PLC, which are opening 20 to 25 stores each year, said Peter Morrison, analyst at BWD Remsburg in Huddersfield.

The new money allows Asda to reduce its debt, relocate 15 of its oldest stores, rebuilding up to 10 more, open an unspecified number of new stores and expand its Dales discount chain. Without the cash, Asda would have been forced to close stores in the next few years, squeezing its sales and earnings growth.

[The rights issue is Asda's second in less than 18 months. Reuters reported, in September, 1991 it raised £357 million via a nine-for-10 issue at 35 pence to cut debt. Two years previously, it bought 60 stores from Icosoles PLC for £704 million, a deal in which analysts said it overpaid in the rush for expansion.]

[Asda said it would recommend a final dividend of 1.1 pence, giving a total dividend for the year of 1.6 pence. AFP-Extel reported. A year earlier, it paid 2.1 pence.]

Among companies rumored to be studying equity sales are Allied-Lyons PLC, British Petroleum Co., Burton Group PLC, Commercial Union Assurance Co., Glaxo Holdings PLC, Guardian Royal Exchange, Royal Insurance Holdings PLC, Taylor Woodrow PLC and Tarmac PLC.

The most obvious candidates are capital goods, construction and engineering companies that are bogged down with debt or need capital to expand or insurers who need to rebuild their balance sheets, said Jerry Evans, market analyst at NatWest Securities.

Omanis Give Lift To Vickers

Reuters

LONDON — Vickers PLC won an important £300 million order for Challenger 2 tanks from Oman on Thursday, but analysts said the embattled defense company was not out of trouble yet.

Prime Minister John Major announced the order in Muscat, Oman, after meeting the country's ruler, Sultan Qaboos bin Said. Mr. Major said the contract — for 18 tanks and four support vehicles, with orders for another 18 expected later — will sustain the 1,800 jobs at Vickers two plants at Newcastle and Leeds.

It was the first export order for the tank and gave a much-needed boost to Vickers, which lost a \$4.5 billion order for 256 tanks and equipment from Kuwait to the Abrams M-1A2 of General Dynamics Corp. of the United States.

Vickers later fell out of the race for a \$1.5 billion tank order from Sweden.

"This is a help and if there are advance payments it will reduce Vickers' gearing," said Sandy Morris, an analyst at County NatWest Markets.

But he said Vickers would need to win an order to upgrade Britain's 420 Challenger 1 tanks to keep its plants working through the 1990s.

Usinor Is Downbeat As Losses Mount

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Europe's biggest steelmaker, Usinor Saclor, on Thursday reported a massive loss for the second consecutive year and said no recovery was in sight, especially following the U.S. move to impose temporary duties on steel imports.

"We will be forced to stop exporting to the U.S.," said Chairman Francis Mer, who described Washington's action as illogical.

The duties would eliminate the company's roughly 2 billion francs (\$374 million) in U.S. sales, which amount to about 5 percent of its flat-rolled steel output and about 10 percent of its exports.

Usinor said its net attributable loss was 2.4 billion francs (\$448 million) last year, less than the \$3 billion franc shortfall in 1991. But the reported loss for 1992 was reduced substantially by taking back 1.4 billion francs in provisions against technological risks that had been set aside in previous years.

Sales fell 10.8 percent in 1992 to 86.7 billion francs.

The results were a stark reminder of the world steel industry's woes as slack demand pushes some producers to the verge of bankruptcy.

Usinor, 80 percent owned by the French government and 20 percent by state-owned Crédit Lyonnais, is the world's second-biggest steelmaker behind Nippon Steel Corp.

Mr. Mer said his company hoped to sell some of the steel that might be kept out of the U.S. market to other customers, especially China, where demand is buoyant. The company also said it hoped higher prices would begin to help results in the second half of this year.

Thyssen Weighs Exit From Steel

Bloomberg Business News

DUISBURG, Germany — Thyssen AG may consider selling or scrapping its steel division if authorities do not act quickly on its request for a European cartel to share production cuts, Chief Executive Heinz Krivwet said Thursday.

He made the warning as Thyssen reported a 14 percent drop in sales in October-December, its financial first quarter, to 8.0 billion Deutsche marks (\$5.1 billion). Thyssen Stahl, the steel unit that accounts for about one-third of group sales and employs 38,000, last week reported a 16 percent drop in sales in the quarter, to 2.5 billion DM.

Investor's Europe

Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	Change
Frankfurt DAX	FTSE 100 Index	2,972.50	2,977.00	-4.50
London CAC 40		3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Amsterdam	AMS 100	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Brussels	Stock Index	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Frankfurt	DAX	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Frankfurt	FAZ	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Helsinki	HEX	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
London	Financial Times 30	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
London	FTSE 100	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Madrid	General Index	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Milan	MIB	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Paris	CAC 40	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Stockholm	Affarsveckling	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Vienna	Stock Index	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00
Zurich	SBS	3,800.00	3,800.00	0.00

Cap Gemini Sogeti Swung Into Loss in 1992

Bloomberg Business News

PARIS — Cap Gemini Sogeti SA, the software and computer-services company, said Thursday that it had swung to a consolidated net loss of 80 million French francs (\$14.95 million) in 1992, from a net profit of 560 million francs a year earlier.

The company said in a statement that its results for 1993 would not "improve spectacularly" because of

the economic outlook. Cap Gemini said it expected the new corporate structure put in place this year to end its difficult transition period by the start of 1994.

Cap Gemini said restructuring charges totaled 338 million francs last year.

Sales in 1992 rose 19 percent to 12 billion francs, partly due to the acquisition of Volmac Software Groep NV of the Netherlands.

GM: If EDS Were Sold, Who Gains?

(Continued from first finance page)

EDS, or all of it, class E shares would disappear. Owners would get shares of ordinary GM common.

How many shares would they get? That depends on the relative market prices of the two securities. Class E holders are supposed to get enough common shares to equal 1.2 times the market value of their old class E stock.

If GM set Tuesday as a "date of determination" for selling EDS, it would compare the price of GM common and GM class E common for the 15 trading days ending 10 days prior to Tuesday. That would be the trading days from Dec. 24 through Jan. 15 and would work into a ratio of 1.15 GM common

shares for every class E share. Based on Thursday's closing price of GM common — which fell 25 cents, to \$37.75 — that works into a value of \$43.41, 30 percent premium over Thursday's closing price of GM class E.

That ratio would vary depending on the prices during the period prior to the date of determination.

And it is worth noting that the ratio would depend only on trading prices, not on what GM actually got for selling EDS.

GM designed its class E shares to trade as if they had an ownership stake in EDS. But in reality they do not. And if there were a sale of EDS, that difference could be very important.

But Mr. Mer said there were still too many players in the European steel industry and predicted a new bout of acquisitions.

The approach taken by Western Europe to limit steel imports from Eastern Europe was more logical than the U.S. duties, Mr. Mer said, because it aimed to safeguard Western Europe's market while allowing Eastern Europe increasing access.

The poor outlook will force a cut-back in investment, Usinor said. Investment in 1992 fell to 4.9 billion francs from 6.5 billion in 1991.

(Reuters, Bloomberg)

Very briefly:

- DAF NV said banks had reached agreement in principle with the Flemish and Dutch governments to restructure the company but had not finalized a definite plan. While that is under study, the banks and government will help DAF pay supplier bills, the company said.
- Fiat SpA said it would make a small net profit in 1992 on sales of 59.1 trillion lire (\$40.4 billion), up 4.6 percent from 1991.
- Britain's trade gap widened to £1.54 billion (\$2.33 billion) in December, bringing last year's deficit on trade in goods and services to almost double the 1991 figure, the Central Statistical Office said.
- The European Investment Bank said the volume of loans it granted in 1992 rose 11 percent to 17 billion European currency units (\$20.96 billion).

COMPANY RESULTS

Revenue and profits or losses, in millions, are in local currencies unless otherwise indicated.

Company	Year	Revenue	Profit	Per Share
Canada				
Northern Telecom	1992	2,541	2,267	1.03
1991	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1990	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1989	2,541	2,267	1.03	
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1987	2,541	2,267	1.03	
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1985	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1984	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1983	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1982	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1981	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1980	2,541	2,267	1.03	
1979	2,541	2,267	1.03	
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1805	2,541</			

SPORTS SUPER BOWL

Matching Up: The Long and the Short of It

By Thomas George
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — Both Super Bowl teams have, in recent years, bucked a strong trend by choosing taller, rangier and stronger receivers instead of the Slim-fitter-like ones who had begun to dominate the National Football League.

The Buffalo Bills start receivers James Lofton (6 feet, 3 inches and 190 pounds, or 190 centimeters and 86 kilograms) and Andre Reed (6-2, 190), who will challenge the Dallas Cowboys' cornerbacks Kevin Smith (5-11, 177) and Isaac Holt (6-2, 198) on Sunday.

Dallas receivers Michael Irvin (6-2, 199) and Alvin Harper (6-3, 207) will be met by the Bills' cornerbacks Nate Odomes (5-10, 188) and J.D. Williams (5-10, 178).

Except for Holt, none of the starting cornerbacks match up physically with any of the receivers, particularly in height. It is an edge both teams want to exploit.

As a result, a variety of lo passes, short and long and down the sidelines, can be expected in this Super Bowl. The taller receivers will play jump ball, especially against

Washington Redskins. "Lofton is a possession-type guy and he can be tough inside the 20 on fade routes where they lob it and play off his height. But I've got fresh, younger legs. I have to use my speed to my advantage. If he goes down and catches one of those lo passes with one hand, then he's made a hell of a catch, because I'll have the other hand in my pocket, or a piece of his jersey."

Jimmy Johnson became the Dallas coach in 1989 when the run-and-shoot offense was beginning to catch on in the league. Three teams (Atlanta, Detroit and Houston) have used the run-and-shoot, a pass-oriented offense, as a base in recent seasons, and all NFL teams have incorporated facets of it.

As the quicker, smaller receivers surfaced, so, too, did the quicker, smaller defensive backs.

"I wanted a more flexible offense," Johnson said. "I wanted the option of the two-back or the power game with fullback and tight ends. I didn't feel the run-and-shoot was flexible enough with what we wanted to do with our offense."

"We did find that with the size of our receivers, we were able to exploit some defenses. No doubt, that's been a big plus for us."

Hubbard Alexander, the Cowboys' receivers coach, said his team has a perfect complement of receivers: Irvin and Harper are the big guys and Kelvin Martin (5-9, 165) is the changeup, run-and-shoot type of guy. Buffalo has much the same, with Lofton and Reed flanked by speedy Don Beebe (5-11, 184).

"Not only do the bigger receivers have an advantage in height," said Hubbard, "but their size helps them break tackles. Irvin has had a lot of plays this season where he ran over or pushed aside smaller corners. Both our bigger guys can do this, and it makes the run after the catch a big part of the game."

"Harper," said the Bills' cornerback Odomes, "may be the most dangerous guy with the job pass on the field. Anybody with the kind of background he has in track, you have to give special concern and consideration. He doesn't only have the height and leaping ability. He's got the wheels."

The World Over, It Will Be a Super Night (or Morning)

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

For football fans outside the United States, Super Bowl Sunday will be more like Super Bowl Monday. The opening kickoff in Pasadena, California, is to take place at about 23:18 GMT, which will make it a post-midnight start for most of continental Europe and a barely-early beginning to the week.

In Asia, the game will go well with morning coffee, starting for example, at 7 A.M. Monday in Hong Kong.

Despite the time difference, football fans around the world will be following the game as they do every year — on television and radio, at home and aboard Navy ships, at special Super Bowl parties in bars, restaurants and hotels.

From Moscow to Mogadishu, Birmingham to Beijing, they will have the chance to watch the spectacle between the Buffalo Bills and Dallas Cowboys.

For some, it will be easier than others. London, with its large American population and considerable NFL following, usually attracts a number of special Super Bowl gatherings.

This year, customers at the Rock Island Diner can watch the game and snack on beer and hot dogs for 15 pounds (\$23), while the Hard Rock Cafe is hosting an exclusive party for 150 guests, organized by NFL Properties and the Channel 4 television station, which will broadcast the game live for an estimated audience of 1.5 million.

"We've been absolutely amazed by the amount of people who want to come," said Sally Silverstein, promotions coordinator for NFL Properties. "This party is by invitation only for our licensees and sponsors, but we've had people coming out of the woodwork looking for tickets."

Parties are also planned at Casper's bar and restaurant in the West End and Kenny's, a popular hangout for American ex-pats in the fashionable Hampstead neighborhood. For \$15, patrons there can watch the game and gorge themselves on hotdogs, hamburgers and other American fare.

In Paris, more than half a dozen American restaurants will show the game by satellite on large screens and some will feature all-you-can-eat buffets. One restaurant, Chicago Meatpackers, is planning to bring in pompon girls to add to the atmosphere.

In Germany, bashes are planned in Frankfurt, Hamburg, Berlin and Düsseldorf. As many as 1,500 people are expected at the Music Hall in Frankfurt for a party sponsored by the Frankfurt Galaxy of the World League of American Football and Premier pay-TV.

In Madrid, a Chicago-style pizzeria is offering the game on a big screen and a buffet dinner for \$18.

In Moscow, Americans can watch live coverage via satellite at a party at the Radisson Slavyanskaya hotel. The party is sponsored by an American beer company and a local Moscow radio station, with tickets going for \$15 apiece.

At the American Club on the 44th floor of an office tower in Hong Kong's business district, a sell-out crowd of 400 is expected for football and an American-style breakfast.

While the talk around the pubs in Sydney is more likely to be about a big weekend cricket match between Australia and the West Indies, the Sheraton Airport hotel is having a "Superbowl Monday." Fans will drink at bargain prices and munch on hamburgers, pizza and other snacks starting at 10 A.M.

In Beijing, where the kickoff comes at 6:18 A.M., the American community will be glued to the tube at an expatriate bar near the diplomatic compounds.

Vince Casey, a spokesman for the National Football League, said the game will draw an estimated 750 million viewers in 100 countries, more than ever before. It will go live to 76 countries, including China for the first time.

Only a handful of the more than 24,000 U.S. troops serving in Somalia — those at the headquarters units of the various services, which have sophisticated satellite receivers — will be able to see the game live. The rest will have to settle for radio broadcasts or wait to watch the game on tape.

The crews of five U.S. Navy ships in the Mediterranean — the USS Kennedy, Gettysburg, Leyte Gulf, Guam and Puget Sound — will be able to watch the game live through the telephone satellite system INMARSAT. The image, produced by converting telephone signals into television signals, appears as a choppy video on televisions on board the ships.

"It's not a perfect live signal, but it's the closest we can get," said Lieutenant Greg Smith, a spokesman for the 6th Fleet in Gaeta, Italy. "It's certainly better than nothing."

Then there is Bob Payton, a restaurateur who has opened a string of establishments in London. He said he's not organizing any festivities because of the late hour of the game and restrictive licensing laws.

"It's just too late all the time," he said. "Why not just lie in bed and watch it on TV? I think the Americans will buy all the popcorn in London and sit around as long as they can suck it out."

But Payton has another solution: He's flying to Pasadena to watch the game in person. (AP, Reuters)

Dallas Quarterback Aikman: Low-Key With a High Profile

By Richard Justice
Washington Post Service

LOS ANGELES — The Dallas Cowboys' quarterback, Troy Aikman, reminds one of the Buffalo Bills' coaches of "a young John Elway." Others say his size and strength bring Terry Bradshaw to mind. And this week, as he has acquired the actress Janine Turner of the television series "Northern Exposure" through some of his old UCLA baunts and appeared in a video for country rockers Shenandoah, he has recalled the Super Bowl of Joe Namath.

None of the comparisons matters much; not this week when it's time to simply be Troy Aikman of Henryetta, Oklahoma. It's enough to be arguably the best player on football's best team, someone that dozens of NFL scouts and coaches say will be the next great quarterback, a guy who should keep the Dallas Cowboys in contention for another decade.

Their coach, Jimmy Johnson, may get more attention, running back Emmitt Smith may win more awards and wide receiver Michael Irvin could garner more endorsements if the Cowboys defeat the Buffalo Bills on Sunday in Super Bowl XXVII.

But in a confidential and unscientific survey of some of the NFL's top talent scouts, it's Aikman who is consistently mentioned as being the key player on America's Team II.

"I love Emmitt Smith. I think he's a phenomenal talent," said one prominent NFL scout. "But when you prepare for the Cowboys, it begins with Aikman. He's easy to take him for granted because they're so talented that moving the ball looks easy. But he's big and strong, he's got an accurate arm and he's got a leadership quality about him."

Aikman, 26, arrived here this week expecting the worst, that he'd have to answer the same questions a million times and that each time he walked out of his hotel there would be cameras and notebooks shoved in his face. He must have been convinced of that Sunday, when he stepped off the team bus and into a sea of fans and cameras.

He looked above him and saw the actor Gene Hackman surveying the scene. He was ushered into the first of five straight days of interviews. Beginning the fourth day of those interviews on Wednesday, he seemed unbothered. Wearing running shoes and jeans, a can of Skoal stuffed into his pocket, he handled the press easily, answering questions about lifestyle with humor and grace and those about Xs and

Os with noncommittal doublespeak. From one side of their locker room to the other, this is the week that the new Cowboys are introducing themselves to the world and the message they're sending is that they are relaxed, confident and having fun.

"Last week, people told me about all the distractions and the media blitz and everyone said I was going to hate it," Aikman said. "I came here expecting to be overwhelmed with interviews and all. But I haven't found it like that at all."

He arrived here having been close to perfect in the NFC championship game, completing 24 of 34 passes for 322 yards and two touchdowns. That performance against the San Francisco 49ers set up Sunday's game against the Bills, which he hopes will be the next defining moment of his four-year career.

Quick, who's football's best quarterback? Marino? Elway? Aikman?

Aikman is on all the short lists and this Sunday has a chance to make the list even shorter. The season began with Aikman wanting to show people he could stay healthy for an entire campaign because that seemed to be one of the few things keeping him from greatness. Next comes a championship.

"I don't know how much I proved against the 49ers, but I did play well," he said.

"There hadn't been any doubt in my mind about being able to lead a team to victory in a big game. The biggest thing was that we went to Candlestick Park and won a playoff game. That gives everyone a feeling of confidence."

"My first three years I've been under some criticism for not staying healthy, but that wasn't a concern of mine. It's just nice to be able to finish what you've started."

"Next is the matter of winning. That's the way it is," he said. "I don't think it's fair. I think John Elway, Jim Kelly and Dan Marino are three of the best ever to play the game. They haven't won a Super Bowl. There's nothing you can do to change that thinking. That's the



Troy Aikman, talking with the Cowboys' coach, Jimmy Johnson.

way people are going to see it. When I'm done playing, the only thing people are going to remember is wins and losses."

Friends say Aikman is pretty much what he appears to be. He's soft-spoken and shy, a private man in a public position. Most of his family and several of his friends at UCLA have moved to Dallas and Aikman calls them "a nice network to fall back on. I realize how short-lived this thing is. I'll be ready to move on when it's over with."

Aikman arrived as Tom Landry's gift to the Cowboys' new regime. Landry's last team went 3-13 and the Cowboys had the first pick in the 1989 draft when Jerry Jones bought the team and fired its original coach.

Jones and Johnson made that first pick Aikman. Johnson has made 46 trades in overhauling the Cowboys, but it began with Aik-

man, who was 0-11 as a starter his rookie year. Dallas wound up 1-15.

"I think our younger guys tend to forget what we've gone through," Aikman said. "They tend to think that America's Team never went anywhere. There's great satisfaction among the players that have been here since 1989. Really, I don't know if I'll be back to the Super Bowl and I want to enjoy this first trip."

"I don't want to look back and say, 'Boy, I wish I'd enjoyed it.' I was talking to some of our veterans before the Philadelphia game. I told them we had to do something for them while they were still playing."

"Then I got to thinking about Dan Marino and how he probably thought he'd had a bunch of times. You don't know. It could be our last time."

But the Judge Hates Football

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — An Indianapolis man has flown off to California, bound for the Super Bowl, after asking his lawyer to explain to a court why he could not appear on robbery charges.

But Marion Superior Court Judge Gary Miller rejected the game as a reason to postpone a court hearing.

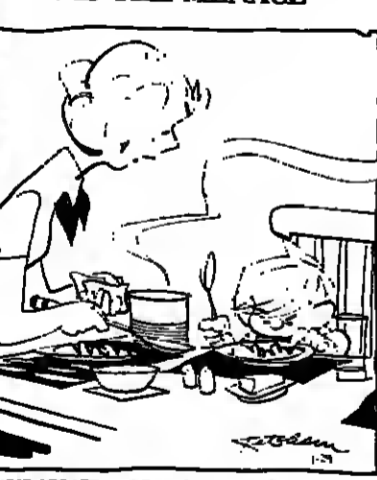
"Had it been NCAA basketball playoffs, I might have reconsidered my position, but I am not a football fan," Miller said.

He issued a \$100,000 re-arrest warrant for Nathaniel Brown, charged with the armed robbery last May of \$27 from an Indianapolis furniture store. He was freed on \$11,000 bond.

Shelly M. Skwarcan, a public defender, told the judge her client called Tuesday to say he wouldn't be able to make his final pretrial hearing.

"For a public defender client to go to the Super Bowl is probably quite unusual," she said, adding that the tickets were given to Brown by a relative.

DENNIS THE MENACE



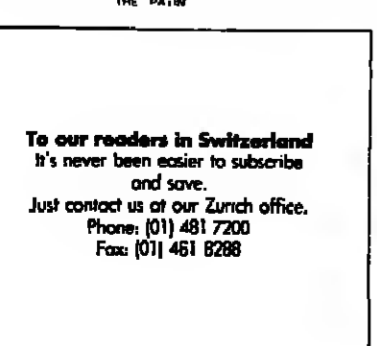
THESE ARE LEFTOVERS, NOT HAND-WE-DOWNS!

JUMBLE



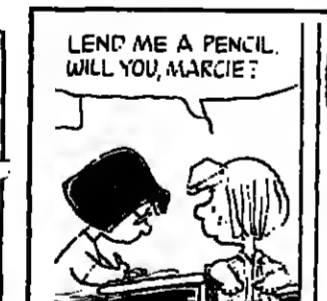
Print answer here: _____

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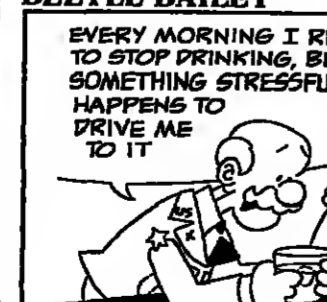
PEANUTS



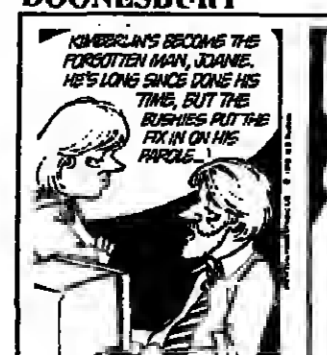
BLONDIE



BEEBLE BAILEY



DOONESBURY



CALVIN AND HOBBES



WIZARD of ID



REX MORGAN



GARFIELD



سكنا من الاجل

SPORTS AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Seles Breezes Past Sabatini, Graf Outduels Sánchez Vicario



Victories Set Up a 10th Showdown

By Christopher Clarey
International Herald Tribune

MELBOURNE — Monica Seles leaned toward the microphone on the Stadium Court and attempted to be kind. "It was a very close match," she told the fans who had paid the equivalent of \$34 each to watch Thursday's women's semifinals of the Australian Open.

A ripple went through the crowd: half surprise, half amusement. Seles had just fibbed.

Her 6-1, 6-2 victory over Gabriela Sabatini was anything but close. Seles, the top seed and two-time defending champion here, was in complete control from the second game, when she broke the weak-serving Argentine with a typically furious forehand down the line.

During the course of the 53-minute tennis lesson, the only thing Seles didn't do better than Sabatini was hit overheads, flubbing the only two she tried.

Otherwise, she applied relentless pressure with her left-handed serve, two-fisted groundstrokes and returns. She arguably even covered the court better than the usually fleet Sabatini, who declared herself "very weak and very tired" because of her late-finishing quarterfinal victory over Mary Pierce.

"I think I have a virus," Sabatini said.

Even without a virus, the third-seeded Sabatini would have had great difficulty keeping Seles out of her eighth straight Grand Slam final. Her opponent will be No. 2 seeded Steffi Graf, who defeated Arantxa Sánchez-Vicario in a semifinal that actually was close, 7-5, 6-4.

"I think it's going to be a great opportunity to play the best woman in the world," Graf said. "I think it's going to be special."

The meeting will be the 10th between Graf, who ruled the women's game in the late 1980s, and Seles, who has seized power in the '90s. Graf led the series, 6-3, and has won three of

their last four matches, including the Wimbledon final in 1992. But though Graf won in England, it is Seles — the Yugoslav-born resident of Sarasota, Florida — who has won six of the last eight Grand Slam tournaments.

"Monica's best thing is her mind," Sabatini said. "That's why she's the best. She's so focused. She plays her best on each point."

Graf was at less than her best against Sánchez-Vicario, the scrapper extraordinaire who already had knocked Graf out of two French Opens and one U.S. Open. The Spaniard opened the match in fine form, keeping her groundstrokes deep and willing her way to the net on a regular basis. She led by 4-2 in the first set and had two break points on Graf's serve in the seventh game, but the athletic German saved them both. When Sánchez-Vicario served for the set at 5-4, Graf broke her at love and proceeded to win the next two games.

"She really played well in the first set," Graf said. "There was very little I could do at the moment."

Graf had to scramble again late in the second set. She served for the match at 5-3, then double-faulted on break point. But Sánchez-Vicario returned the favor on her own serve in the next game, making three unforced groundstroke errors to end the match with a whimper.

"I was sort of O.K. today," Graf said. "Not extraordinary, nothing special. But when it was important, I played well."

Though Sánchez-Vicario lost, she will benefit from her Australian sojourn by moving up to third in the world rankings. She will displace Sabatini, who despite her improved volleying and thrilling comeback against Pierce, looks increasingly unlikely to break into the top two.

The primary problem remains her service motion, which demands enormous energy but produces very little pace.

SIDELINES

WBC Says Lewis Will Fight Tucker

MEXICO CITY (Reuters) — The WBC said that Lennox Lewis of Britain, its world heavyweight champion, had agreed to make his first defense against Tony Tucker of the United States, the No. 1 challenger.

Lewis, 22-0, had asked to make a voluntary defense of his crown against another fighter before facing Tucker.

Lewis became the WBC champion — and Britain's first heavyweight champion this century — last month when the WBC stripped the title from Riddick Bowe of the United States.

Strauss's Drug Ban Appeal Denied

LAUSANNE (Reuters) — The International Swimming Federation said Thursday that it had turned down an appeal of the 18-month ban imposed on former world champion Astrid Strauss of Germany.

FINA increased the ban to 18 months in December after the German swimming federation had earlier struck a deal with the swimmer to limit the suspension to six months. The Germans have threatened to sue FINA if the appeal was not granted.

The appeal by double world sprint champion Katrin Krabbe of a four-year ban for drug use has been put back another month, to March, the German athletics federation said Thursday.

For the Record

Paul McGilley of Ireland shot 7-under-par 65 on Thursday for a one-stroke lead over Russel Craydon of England after the first round of the Desert Classic in Dubai.

Akebono, the Hawaiian, sumo wrestler, learned quickly that being number one in Japan's national sport is not all roses. Naked but for his ceremonial loin-cloth, he went through his promotion rites at Tokyo's Meiji Shrine during a snowstorm.

The San Antonio Spurs, one of two teams that were to join the Canadian Football League this year, shocked the league by saying they had put a "freeze" on such plans until 1994.

Tomasz Soderstrom, the NHL Philadelphia Flyers' goaltender, was cleared to begin playing this weekend after a fourth operation to correct an abnormality in his heart. He is to be re-examined in about a month.

Brian Leetch, the top defenseman in the NHL last season, will be lost to the New York Rangers for at least six weeks with neck and shoulder injuries.

Chinami charges won't be sought against six players for the Portland Trail Blazers who allegedly had an sex party with two 16-year-old girls because the girls had said they were 18, Salt Lake City police said.

Morning Glory, the German-owned boat with a crew of Germans, Americans and South Africans, was the handicapped winner of the Rothman's Cape to Rio Yacht Race.

Spurs Dump SuperSonics, Streak at 10

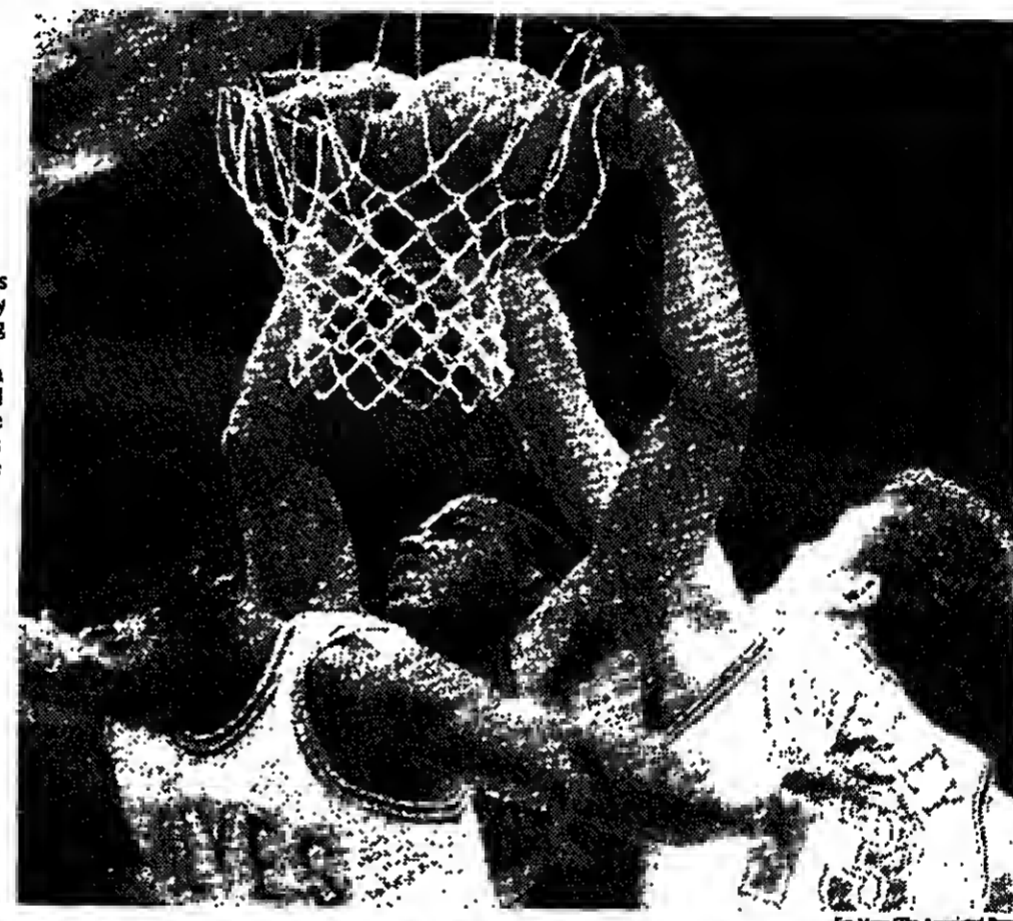
The Associated Press

Even the San Antonio Spurs were impressed with the way they ran their franchise-record winning streak to 10.

"This validates how good of a team we are," David Robinson said after the Seattle SuperSonics were handed their first defeat in 16 games at the Seattle Coliseum, by the score of 119-99 on Wednesday night.

"It was tremendous to stick it to them on their home court," said J. R. Reid, who scored a season-high 24 points. "We're a team to be reckoned with."

Robinson, despite missing 8 of 9



Charles Barkley, fouled on a dunk by the Timberwolves' Luc Longely, got 35 points as the Suns won.

NBA HIGHLIGHTS

shots in the first half, finished with 17 points, 15 rebounds and seven blocked shots as the Spurs improved to 15-2 under their new coach, John Lucas. And with Utah's 107-97 loss to the Los Angeles Clippers, San Antonio moved into first place in the Midwest Division.

Suns 117, Timberwolves 116: In Minneapolis, Phoenix came within an eyelash of losing its first game to Minnesota before Darny Ainge scored on a rebound with 0.7 seconds left in overtime.

Chuck Person missed a 20-footer at the buzzer as the Timberwolves blew a 21-point lead to lose for the 22nd time in 25 games since November.

Charles Barkley had 35 points

20-Point Comeback For North Carolina

The Associated Press

It was a vintage Carolina comeback.

Trailing by 20 points with 9 1/2 minutes left, the third-ranked Tar Heels staged a remarkable rally to beat No. 19 Florida State 82-77 Wednesday night at Chapel Hill.

George Lynch capped the comeback with a steal and dunk that put the University of North Carolina ahead with 1:41 remaining.

"In the second half our defense was more aggressive," said Lynch, who had 14 points, 10 rebounds and seven steals. "We had to apply more pressure and make them turn the ball over."

The Seminoles had 14 turnovers in the second half, including five in the last eight minutes.

"We got tentative in the second half when they started trapping us," said the Florida State guard Bob Sura. "We felt like we had a big enough lead to win the game, which we didn't, but it seemed like they were making every shot."

North Carolina won its ninth in a row and snapped Florida State's five-game winning streak in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

"We showed what type of team we are in the first half," said Sura, who scored 15 points. "We showed we can play with anybody."

Donald Williams scored 17 of his 19 points in the second half as North Carolina (17-1, 6-0) beat Florida State (13-6, 5-2) and held onto first place in the ACC.

No. 2 Indiana 61, Minnesota 57: Damon Bailey scored 17 points, including a pivotal three-point play, as Indiana (18-2, 7-0 Big Ten) extended its home winning streak to 26 games.

Trailing by 38-57, the Gophers had a chance to take the last shot. But Arnie McDonald was called for a five-second violation with 13 seconds to play.

Minnesota (11-5, 3-4) led the entire game until Bailey's three-point play with 4:14 remaining put the Hoosiers ahead 56-55.

No. 6 Cincinnati 78, Xavier, Ohio 67: Nick Van Exel scored 15 points and polished off a decisive first-half run at Cincinnati that helped the Badgers win their 11th in a row.

Van Exel, benched for the first 7 1/2 minutes in a disciplinary measure, hit a pair of 3-pointers to complete a 16-2 run that gave Cincinnati (14-1) a 38-31 halftime lead.

Jamie Gladden led Xavier (12-3) with 25 points and tied his school record with seven 3-pointers.

No. 21 Georgetown 73, No. 9 Seton Hall 62: The outside shooting of reserves Kevin Millen and Eric Moudou sparked a first-half surge that carried Georgetown to the victory at Landover, Maryland.

The Hoyas (12-3, 5-2 Big East)

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL			
NBA Standings			
EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Atlantic Division			
New York	23	14	447
New Jersey	24	17	395
Charlotte	18	20	374
Boston	21	20	372
Philadelphia	14	23	310
Atlanta	12	26	276
Washington	10	27	268
Central Division			
Chicago	28	13	483
Indiana	24	17	426
Charlotte	19	19	390
Indianapolis	20	21	408
Chicago	18	23	372
Detroit	18	22	350
Washington	14	23	310
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Pacific Division			
San Antonio	25	17	468
Utah	24	14	420
Houston	22	19	408
Denver	13	26	330
Phoenix	21	24	408
Minnesota	7	29	194
Seattle	10	24	281
Midwest Division			
Phoenix	29	5	384
Portland	28	11	378
Seattle	27	13	393
L.A. Clippers	21	19	393
L.A. Lakers	28	19	373
Golden State	20	21	384
Sacramento	15	24	315
WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS			
Atlanta	97	84	2-225
Charlotte	82	83	2-225
Miller 81-82	1-2	Schreffel 11-21	9-11
Hornack 74-55	25	Hawkins 8-14	9-10
Perry 8-13	38	Rabonson 10-11	28
Schreffel 12	11	Philadelphi 51	(Hawkins 13)
Assists—Indiana 31	(Richardson 10)	Philadelphi 34	(Hawkins 10)
Rebounds	25	22	34
Points	21	23	36
Thomson 10-16	23	22	17
Thomson 8-15	22	Mills 9-7	25
Rebounds—Boston 49	(McHale, McDermott 8)	DePaul 21	24
Assists—Portland 21	(Barkley 8)	Boston 29	(Brown 11)
Sacramento	28	24	22
Charlotte	28	23	22
Simmons 15-21	24	Richmond 14-20	22
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Simmons 15-21			

OBSERVER

In Tribal Solitude

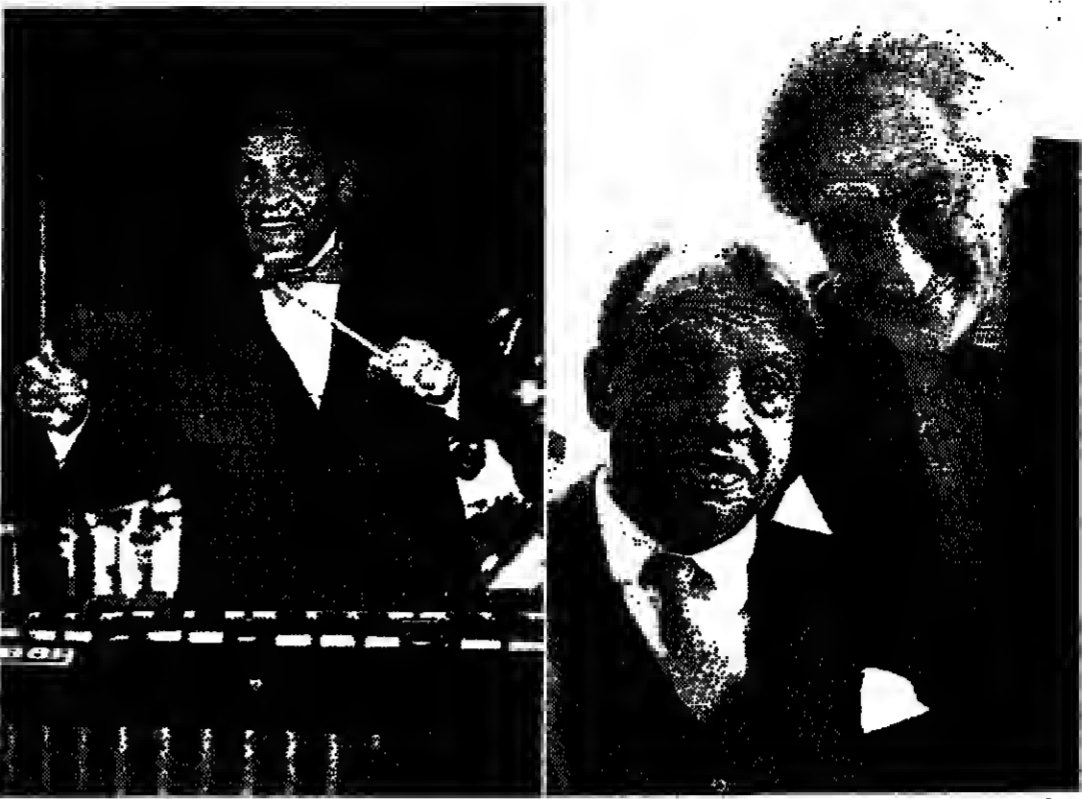
By Russell Baker
NEW YORK—Diversity: I am a European-American. I am a male European-American. I am a Depression-generation, male European-American. I am a hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. I am a college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. I am a heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. I am married to a Celtic-American of the female gender. Don't try telling Celts around me. I am a Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. I am no longer twit this Celtic-American helpmeet about being of the female gender, as I did in the old days when I was a gender-twitting, though already Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. When once too often I said that I yearned for the era when females had sex instead of gender, a number of representatives of that splendid gender urged me to give up my swish male-gender chauvinism and free my mind of outmoded male-female stereotypes. This was sound advice. I am now a genderly enlightened, Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. In short, a gender-twiter no more. The Celtic-American of female gender to whom I am married is a high school dropout and, therefore, not unbecome, but made to feel peculiar in doubles bars for genderly enlightened, Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. In short, we stay home a lot. Politically, I am not kind and

generous enough to be a liberal nor heartless and tight-fisted enough to be a conservative nor dull enough — I insist! — to be a moderate. Therefore, the only doubles bars I frequent are those for politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-Americans. I am married to a Celtic-American of the female gender. Don't try telling Celts around me. I am a Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. I am no longer twit this Celtic-American helpmeet about being of the female gender, as I did in the old days when I was a gender-twitting, though already Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. When once too often I said that I yearned for the era when females had sex instead of gender, a number of representatives of that splendid gender urged me to give up my swish male-gender chauvinism and free my mind of outmoded male-female stereotypes. This was sound advice. I am now a genderly enlightened, Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. In short, a gender-twiter no more. The Celtic-American of female gender to whom I am married is a high school dropout and, therefore, not unbecome, but made to feel peculiar in doubles bars for genderly enlightened, Celt-sensitive, politically unpredictable, comparatively financially disadvantaged, square, married, heterosexual, comb-carrying, college-educated, hearing-impaired, Depression-generation, male European-American. In short, we stay home a lot. Politically, I am not kind and

Lionel Hampton: 'Gates' and His Main Man

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Recording with Louis Armstrong in 1930, the man who billed himself as "the world's fastest drummer" started to play the new-fangled electric xylophone he found in a corner of the studio. It was the world's first jazz vibraphone solo. Lionel Hampton's generation of performers liked to describe themselves as the fastest, the most, the highest, the first. Now, alas, they are mostly the last. Born in 1909, he is one of the last survivors of those who can be said to have invented the music as we know it. He grew famous as a member of the Benny Goodman quartet, with Teddy Wilson and Gene Krupa, one of the first racially integrated jazz bands. With Benny's blessing, he went out on his own in the 1940s. Dexter Gordon, Illinois Jacquet, Wes Montgomery, Clark Terry, Charles Mingus, Dinah Washington and Quincy Jones all started their careers with him. His was the first jazz band to use electric bass and electric piano. Like Lester Young with "Pres," Hampton calls everybody "Gates" and is called Gates in return. Gates took great pride in having the most desire, swing and endurance of anybody on the bandstand. Lionel Hampton playing 25 choruses of "Flyin' Home," his horns burning behind him, was happiness personified. The joke went: "How do you get Gates to stop blowing?" "Fly him home."



Lionel Hampton, on stage and with his manager, Bill Titone: Thirty-two years on a handshake.

front of the other moving from the vibes to the leader's stage-front drum kit for his franchise finale. The world's fastest drummer once literally danced along the same route. That was entertainment, this was drama. The stroke has left him partially paralyzed, and peripheral vision is impaired. Audience and band alike were hypnotized. We were witnessing a heroic triumph of human will. There was not much energy left when he settled on the stool behind the bass drum. But above all, first, last, and one gets the impression, always, he's still up there doing it. He assumes an assortment of roles — minority spokesman, political wheeler-dealer, musical trailblazer, crowd-pleaser, fund-raiser, yesterday's war-horse, today's keeper of the flame, PR man, preacher. But he's more than an actor. He is, in fact, always probing to find out what role you are playing. Gates still has that old gleam in his eye. "Isn't he amazing?" said Bill Titone, looking at his client with love and pride. It's been a 32 years. Thirty-two years ago, Titone was helping run Apollo Records, a CBS Mahalia Jackson built. When Mahalia signed with CBS, Apollo lost its prime asset. The owner sold the label and purchased Cash Box, a trade magazine. "Bill," he said, "you're a good salesman. You can sell ads to the record companies." That was not exactly what Titone wanted to do with his life. When Mahalia told him that Gladys and Lionel Hampton were looking for somebody to manage their small record label, he drove to Washington, talked to them in their hotel suite and shook hands on a deal that to this day is based solely on a handshake.

Titone has hired musicians (Wynton Marsalis) and fired them (Branford Marsalis). It was Titone who called Gates, who was on the road as usual, to tell him that Gladys had died. Gladys and Lionel were very close. Titone's wife, Cappy, found Gates a fancy bachelor's pad in a luxury high-rise near Lincoln Center, decorated it and hired a housekeeper. Rarely not by his side, Bill was in a position to jump immediately to his aid after the stroke, which was on a handshake of course, and arrange for the best surgeons and hospital care. The Titones would like to spend more time in their Vermont house. Bill thinks it would benefit Hampton's health to work less. But he knew it was true when Clark Terry told him: "Bill, you can't let Gates retire. If he stops playing music, he's dead. Titone says: 'Lionel is clinging to that wonderful unreality of the road; just like Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Woody Herman. He lost his wife, his musicians are his children.' I ask Gates what keeps him going. "Faith," he replied. "I have faith in what I'm doing. Music gives me faith. I always put God in the music. I pay tribute to God and ask for deliverance every day. My grandmother used to read me the Bible. I still read the Bible. I still follow the principles my grandmother taught me. I pray to the man upstairs. I ask him for guidance, for musical ideas, to help me play better. He's the main man. He always comes to my rescue. How about you? What keeps you going?"

PEOPLE

Ice-T and Warner Bros. Split Up Over Cop Rap. Warner Bros. Records and the rapper Ice-T have parted company because of "creative differences." Warner said the decision was mutual. The company took the heat for his "Cop Killer" song, which caused national uproar last year with lyrics like these: "I'm 'bout to dust some cops off. . . Die, die, die, pig, die." Even though former Vice President Dan Quayle let his Indiana driver's license lapse, he held on to his permit from Virginia — where he lived when he was a senator. He has actually driven a car since he left office, he said and does plan to renew his Indiana license soon. In the meantime, he's house-sitting in Maryland, after residing in the District of Columbia for four years. Princess Diana, who is said to have waged a long battle with bulimia, seems to be enjoying a healthier relationship with food now that she's separated from Prince Charles. Several newspapers, publishing photographs of the bikini-clad princess on a post-Christmas holiday in the Caribbean with her two sons, pointed out that Di was no longer so painfully thin. And on Wednesday, she picked up a slice of cake while touring a bakery. Bent Stassen of Norway won the prestigious Golden Boccuse in Lyon in competition with 22 cooks from around the world. The 30-year-old chef received \$15,000 with the award, named after the French chef Paul Bocuse. Julia Child urged President Bill Clinton to hire an American chef. The kitchen guru, who has lectured generations of Americans about cooking and appreciating good food for 30 years on public television, aligned herself with Alice Waters and a number of other prominent chefs who have petitioned the fast-food president to install a chef who would promote American cuisine.

WEATHER

Weather forecast section including maps for Europe, Asia, North America, and Latin America. Includes temperature and precipitation data for various regions and a legend for weather symbols.

CROSSWORD

Crossword puzzle section with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution to the puzzle from Jan. 23 and a grid for the current puzzle.

BOOKS

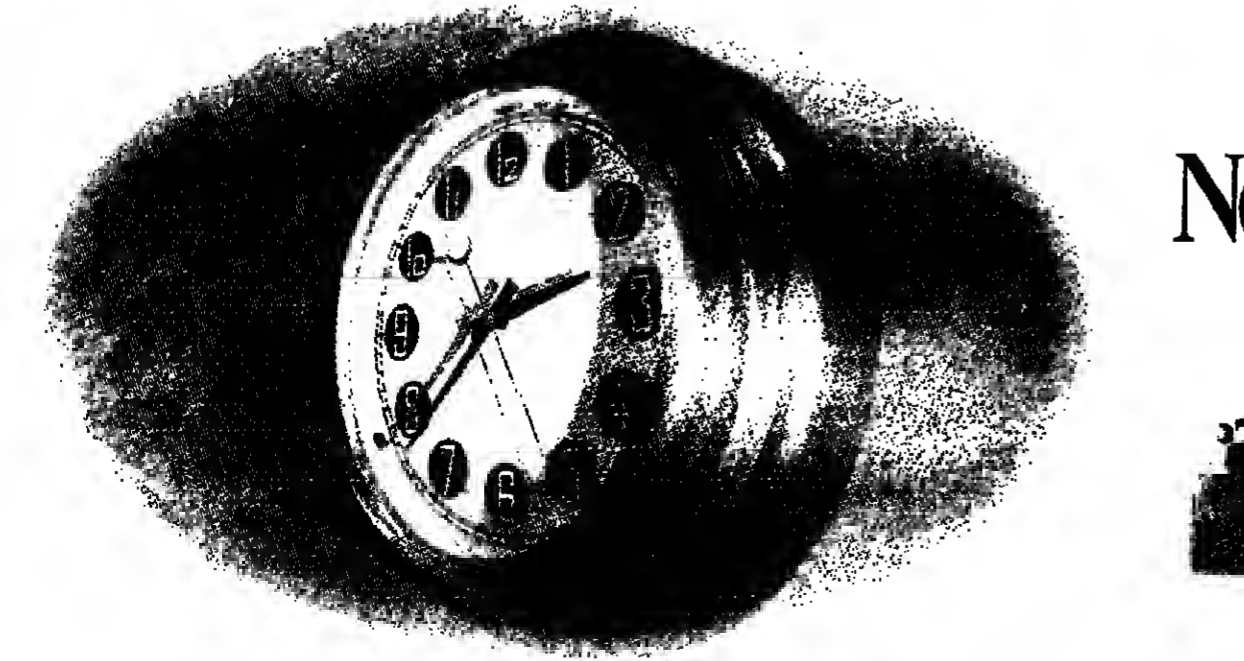
KITCHEN By Banana Yoshimoto. Translated by Megan Backus. 152 pages. \$14.95. Grove Press. Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani. WHEN "Kitchen" first appeared in Japan in 1988, it brought its young author instant fame and acclaim. The novella won the prestigious Kaiga magazine New Writer Prize, and during a year's stay on the best-seller lists it sold nearly 2 million copies. Banana Yoshimoto, the improbably named 24-year-old former waitress who is its author, became a household name. As impeccably translated by Megan Backus, "Kitchen" might easily be mistaken for an American

her grandmother's friends, a young man by the name of Yuichi Tanabe. Yuichi invites Mikage to come live with him and his mother, and though she barely knows him, Mikage readily agrees. She doesn't want to be alone anymore, and she feels strangely comfortable with this distant young man. There's something about the kitchen in the apartment he shares with his mother that makes her feel at home. In relating this story, Yoshimoto occasionally allows her narrator to meditate at length about suffering and death, and these interludes have a way of growing maudlin. "Truly great people emit a light that warms the hearts of those around them," Mikage says. "When that light has been put out, a heavy shadow of despair descends. Perhaps Eriko's was only a minor kind of greatness, but her light was sorely missed."

judged that the slam would depend at worst on the club finesse and might be better. It was much better, for there were three chances. She took the heart king, cashed the spade ace and led to the heart ace. She then ruffed a heart, cashed the diamond ace and ruffed a diamond. Another heart was ruffed, depriving West of a possible exit card, and a trump was led. Now a club led forced South to finesse, and that final chance also failed. She had played skillfully, but had gone down in a 70 percent slam, no doubt cursing the fates. Since the rival North-South rested timidly to four spades, her team lost 13 imps and with them the match. They fell out of the lead but the

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war was not lost: they charged back with a last-round victory and took the title. Both sides were vulnerable. The bidding: South West North East 1♣ Pass 3 N.T. Pass 4♣ Pass 4♥ Pass 4♠ Pass West led the heart queen.



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